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NICARAGUANS FORCIBLY DEPORTED FROM COLOMBIA

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 4 Feb 80 Sec E p 6

[Text] Two weeks ago, two dozen Nicaraguans residing in San Andres were suddenly moved to Cucuta in an FAC [Colombian Armed Forces] plane, at the order of the DAS [Administrative Department of Security].

They include several individuals who had been residing there for over 5 years, and others who are married to Colombians; and, according to the attorney who is advising them, the majority are employed and their work status has been established.

As EL TIEMPO learned, the sudden transfer of the Nicaraguans, who were moved in a matter of 24 hours, is due to the tension that has existed between Colombia and Nicaragua since the claims made by the latter to an area of the Caribbean which Colombia considers its own.

The acting head of the DAS, Dr Gabriel Gutierrez Tovar, said that the transfer of the Nicaraguans was fair, and had become necessary, because there are few sources of employment in San Andres and all those evacuated were without fixed jobs.

However, EL TIEMPO found that at least part of the group was working. For example, five of the Nicaraguans are members of a musical ensemble known as "Gamma," which had been putting on performances in San Andres for the past 7 months.

Sudden Move

The precipitous removal of the 23 residents, two of whom are Colombians, took place on 17 January. Two days earlier, the Nicaraguans residing on the island were summoned to the DAS offices through calls made by radio. The reason for the summons was not specified. Upon their arrival at the security offices in the evening, they were divided into two groups. One of the two groups was allowed to leave, and the second was notified that it would be moved to Cucuta a few hours later.

The Nicaraguans protested and, the next day, when they were taken to the airport, they put up resistance when required to get off the bus. However, with the use of the necessary force, they were put aboard a four-engine PAC plane which took them to the Diocesan Immigration Center, in Cucuta.

The priest directing this institution, who is responsible for aiding Colombians who have been deported by the Venezuelan authorities, was unaware that these unexpected guests would be arriving. The Nicaraguans have now spent over 2 weeks in Cucuta, during which they were allowed to move about in the town, and have been interviewed by the governor. The Center has been insisting that they be taken from there, and the Colombian Government has notified them that they may travel freely throughout all of Colombian territory, with the exception of San Andres.

In a dialog with EL TIEMPO, Gene Edward Hudson, a member of the musical ensemble, complained of the circumstances under which he was evacuated from the island. He said that nearly all of those removed have their papers in order. He cited the case of one of them, who is married to a Colombian woman, whose children are Colombian and who has resided in Colombia for the past 5 years; and, despite this, he was taken to Cucuta, while his family remains in San Andres, without support.

According to Hudson, on the same day that they were held in the DAS offices, a ship from their country arrived in San Andres. Upon learning that they were to be taken to Cucuta, the Nicaraguans requested that they be permitted, instead, to depart for their country on the ship, which was due to leave 4 days later. This permission was denied them because, according to a statement made by the local DAS, it was not a passenger vessel.

From the High Echelons of Government

The national headquarters of the DAS, for its part, stated that the Nicaraguans who were moved are refugees who lack a visa for the present time. Dr Gutierrez said that San Andres is overpopulated, and that the group of foreigners taken to Cucuta did not have stable employment. However, he admitted that the operation was also related to the dispute between Colombia and Nicaragua concerning the Serrana, Roncador and Quitasueno keys, which are precisely a part of the archipelago of San Andres and Providencia. The superintendent told the injured parties that he was obeying orders from the high echelons of government.

No other foreigner of a different nationality was forced to leave the island.

The Nicaraguans who were deported are: Edward Hudson, Vidal Segueira, Fernando Martinez, Alvin Siu, Lindel Martin, Clifford Notice, Rocy Carson, Casten Rigby, Ricky Daniels, Humberto Hudson, Luis Hall, Carl Smith, Ludrich Hudson, Ansel Morgan, Donald Hudson, Algreen Morgan, Elias Wendys, Mario

Dixon, Elmer Hudson, Jorge Coulson and Patsy Hudson (5 years old). Accompanying them were Gloria Valdes and Marcia Celis, who are Colombians and the wives of two of the aforementioned Nicaraguan citizens.

Some of those moved told EL TIEMPO: "We ask the Colombian Government to allow us to return to our country, where we have free entry, because we do not have any political or penal debts." Nearly all of them are from Bluefield, a Nicaraguan port on the Caribbean which has many cultural, historical and linguistic ties with San Andres.

The head of the San Andres House of Culture, Kent Francis James, himself, pleaded for them as follows: "We are appealing to the government to have them returned from Nicaragua, because we fear for their survival, owing to the lack of resources and connections in Cucuta. In San Andres they have friends and relatives concerned about helping them. There are no charges against them that would preclude their return, and we trust that they will be allowed to do so."

EL TIEMPO attempted to contact the Nicaraguan ambassador, to obtain his comments, but it was impossible to do so despite several tries. Finally, an official replied: "We are not issuing any statement about any of that affair here."

2909

CSO: 3010

COLUMNIST FAULTS CUBAN OBSTRUCTION TO RIGHT OF ASYLUM

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 31 Jan 80 pp 6-A, 8-A

[Article by Eduardo Borrell Navarro, editorial columnist: "Right of Asylum Misinterpreted"]

[Text] Recently there have been extensive reports from the international press telling of events which took place at various Indoiberian American embassies in Havana, Cuba, occurring when military surveillance forces at those missions opened fire against groups of citizens who were attempting to take asylum there, with some deaths resulting.

Two events of this kind occurred at the Venezuelan legation, and one at that of Peru. Both nations have made vigorous protests to the government of President Fidel Castro. Breaking with all established precedents regarding the right to asylum, the Cuban government maintains round-the-clock surveillance on all the embassies accredited to Havana, to prevent dissident citizens from taking refuge there and asking for political asylum.

This is not the first time since Castro took power in January 1959 that this regime has tried to distort the most elemental rules of the right to political asylum. In the early days of Castro communism, Manuel Urrutia, first president of the republic appointed by Castro, announced to the world a strange theory about the right to asylum which changed its meaning and purpose by reserving for the governments and not for the chiefs of the sheltering missions the power to determine asylum.

By trying to invalidate the humanitarian purpose by means of his concocted "doctrine," Urrutia was seeking to prevent the escape from jail or the firing squad of the hundreds of Cubans who had sought refuge in Latin American embassies since January 1959 to free themselves from communist persecution. When this outrageous idea did not succeed, the Cuban government immediately ordered a guard to be put on all diplomatic missions to prevent anyone from being able to take asylum.

When many Cuban citizens were able to get into those diplomatic buildings using violent means, obtain sanctuary, and leave the island, the Cuban

government then ordered that they were to be turned back with gunfire. That is how the situation arose where several persons have met death trying to reach the extraterritoriality of those embassies.

Now, as a government response to the protests of Venezuela and Peru, Havana replies that "it will not authorize departure from the island for those who illegally resort to the right of asylum." By doing this the Castro government is trying to take upon itself the power to determine when the right to asylum should or should not be granted to citizens who are attempting to take refuge in the foreign legations.

This new Cuban "doctrine" is something truly unprecedented. In addition to keeping embassies guarded by soldiers, who have orders to shoot at anyone trying to enter, the Castro government reserves for itself the right to authorize departure from Cuba for any citizen who may succeed in getting into those residences.

The 21 founding nations of the Organization of American States have always recognized and practiced the right of diplomatic asylum, by means of which all persecuted politicians have found refuge and protection against the actions of their own government. This fundamental right has always been recognized and made use of in all countries of Iberoamerica. To mention only one case, we can state that the government of Somoza respected this sacrosanct fundamental right of humanity, and freely permitted dissidents from his regime to take asylum and later to leave the country. Hundreds of Nicaraguans came to Mexico, making use of the safe-conduct granted by the Somoza government; and during the constitutional government of President Fulgencio Batista, hundreds of Castroites and others opposed to that government were able to take refuge in embassies and to immediately leave their country if they so wished.

Because of the implications which this decision of the Castro communist government could have for Latin America, and in view of the possibility that other states could do the same, it would be well for the OAS to carefully examine this "legal" thesis of Havana, so as to reach unequivocal agreement on the subject. The enormity of this Cuban approach makes it extremely urgent. Meanwhile we will await the response which the governments of Venezuela and Peru will make to this, as they are the most directly involved in this sensational international scandal.

8131

CSO: 3010

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

ARGENTINE AUTO MAKERS RELUCTANT TO COMPETE WITH BRAZIL

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 2 Feb 80 p 6

[Text] The Association of Motor Vehicle Manufacturers (ADEFA) has voiced its concern over a possible indiscriminate opening up of motor vehicle trade between our country and Brazil. In a statement the association analyzes the situation facing the two industries and points out that Brazil's industrial costs are lower than Argentina's. As an example it cites that a domestic car would sell on the Brazilian market for about \$15,000 according to their estimates, whereas an equivalent Brazilian unit would go for \$2,300 on the foreign market.

The following is the text of the ADEFA statement:

The Document

ADEFA directors expressed their serious concern over a possible indiscriminate opening up of motor vehicle trade between Argentina and Brazil.

In this regard, they stated that although the praiseworthy efforts of State Commerce Secretary Estrada to secure a cutback in Brazil's car import duties were successful, this could not result in balanced trade that would be beneficial to our country.

Brazil, they recall, has lower industrial costs than Argentina, which is due to many factors: structure, much larger scale or volume and other facets such as major investments over the necessary period.

Moreover, monetary policy has helped by setting a dollar-cruzeiro parity that has easily outstripped the developments in domestic costs. With the latest, sharp devaluations this has maintained or enhanced the competitiveness of Brazilian products overseas.

The upshot is that today Brazil can export industrial products (not only cars) at prices that in almost all cases are lower than European prices.

In Argentina, on the other hand, the outlook is practically the opposite, for historical reasons and owing to current circumstances. The peso is strong vis-a-vis the dollar, and our costs are higher than international costs in every category subjected to analysis, whether raw materials, inputs, services or even taxes.

Therefore, even if the principle of reciprocity established in the Automotive Code (Law No 21,932, Article 4) were to be observed and a comparable level of customs duties applied (currently 85 percent in Argentina and 185 percent in Brazil), the situation that would stem from this would be frankly dangerous.

Comparison

An Argentine car that, for example, could be exported to Brazil, under current privileges, at around \$5,000 (assuming that there would be a surcharge of only 85 percent, plus all other regular expenses) would sell on the Brazilian market for about \$15,000, according to estimates based on as yet incomplete data. If we bear in mind that an equivalent unit would sell on the Brazilian domestic market for about \$3,500, while its export price would be around \$2,300, we can obviously see that no one is going to buy vehicles imported from Argentina.

On the contrary, the opposite development could be destructive to both the national end-product and car parts industries, for the above reasons and because there would not be enough time to adapt our industrial structure to compete with minimum chances for success. All of this does not take into consideration the impact of factors beyond the control of the firms doing business in the country, such as the exchange rate, the price of inputs, the size of the market, the tax level, actual protection, etc.

Another major aspect to keep in mind is that prices are still controlled in Brazil, and therefore the enterprises are operating practically without margins. Obviously, under the current circumstances, exports are a "lifesaver" for them, since they can improve their prices even further because they benefit from major government measures to promote exports.

If, on the other hand, we are talking about car parts or components trade with Brazil, in line with established regulations, then we can achieve advantages that would translate into greater overall efficiency, inasmuch as uniform price compensation could lead to an expansion of economies of scale with the active participation of auto parts makers and terminal plants. This expanded volume could mitigate the problems stemming from the cost differences in the two countries.

Therefore, if an import-export trade of complete units is begun with Brazil without the essential precautions having been taken (given the complexities of the sector), there will logically be an invasion of Brazilian cars, which would be damaging and unfair to the national industry at a time when it is reportedly making major efforts to enhance its efficiency.

8743

CSO: 3010

ARGENTINE OFFICIAL TERMS BILATERAL ACCORD WITH BRAZIL 'SIGNIFICANT'

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 3 Feb 80 pp 1, 14

[Text] During a talk with LA NACION in which he discussed the main aspects of his recent efforts in Brazil, the secretary of commerce and international economic negotiations, Alejandro Estrada, pointed out that the Brazilian Government's recent decision to suspend the ban on car imports (while keeping tariffs high) could be regarded as not adhering to the concept of reciprocity, inasmuch as Argentine customs duties are much lower. "Thus, he said, we are still looking at the possibility of importing cars from Brazil."

"In any case," the secretary added, "we cannot operate under the preconception of analyzing each and every product. The problem of the automotive industry is of nationwide interest, and we have to look out for the interest of Argentina, which is the interest of consumers."

An Overall Balance

"We are not seeking balanced trade by product or by country," Estrada specified. "We are seeking an overall balance because foreign trade is an instrument for the general welfare, not an instrument to benefit one sector at the expense of the community."

"There is talk about the dangers of motor vehicle trade with Brazil. Dangers for whom? The fact is that we have to look out for the development of the domestic industry but in harmony with the interests of consumers."

"Moreover," he went on to say, "we can see that the automotive industry is undergoing a major overhaul, with sizable investments. We should thus ask: What would have happened if the old rules of the game had been kept, one of which was a ban on imports?"

"I am convinced that if the reconversion process under way continues, it would not be surprising for the sector's current output to double in a very short time, and at affordable prices."

"A tremendous transformation is taking place," he continued, "tied to the enhanced competitiveness of our automotive industry in international terms. In this context, trade with Brazil could be very important."

Bilateral Trade

In referring specifically to his talks in Brazil with the ministers of planning, Delfim Netto; finance, Hernani Galveas, and industry and commerce, Camilo Pena, Estrada emphasized the increase in bilateral trade with Brazil. He said that in 1979, according to preliminary figures, overall trade totaled around \$1.5 billion, \$700 million in Brazilian exports and \$800 million in imports (Argentine exports, that is). He estimated that the overall current account between the two countries was about \$2 billion.

"The important thing is that bilateral trade grew naturally, in keeping with the strict economic rule of the need to integrate. We exchange bananas for apples, and pears and wheat for coffee," he cited as examples. "This is natural. The same thing ought to happen with industrial goods."

In addition, Argentina is Brazil's fifth largest customer, and Brazil is Argentina's second largest client, after Holland. This means that both markets are important for the two countries, and thus it is not in the interest of either to neglect bilateral trade.

Estrada stressed that trade with Brazil "does not consist solely of traditional goods" and stated that mechanisms are under study to increase trade in industrial products, especially in the capital goods area.

LAFTA

He also said that they had analyzed the "loosening up" of LAFTA to facilitate bilateral relations, indicating that Brazil is looking at the issue and that there was agreement as to the goals.

Double Taxation

In commenting that they had looked at a future double taxation agreement, Estrada called attention to the fact that such agreements already existed with other countries, but not with Brazil. "We must establish a framework," he pointed out, "so that reciprocal and bilateral investments can be made." He announced that a technical analysis of such an agreement would begin in March.

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

GRENADAN TO SANDINO COMMEMORATION—Grenada's Prime Minister Maurice Bishop will travel to Managua today, Friday, to participate as a special guest in the activities marking an anniversary of Augusto Cesar Sandino's death. On Saturday Bishop will attend the mass rally in Managua called by the Government of National Reconstruction and the Sandino National Liberation Front. [Text] [FL221540 Havana Voice of Cuba in English to North America and the Caribbean 0500 GMT 22 Feb 80 FL]

CSO: 3020

GALTIERI COMMENTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT

Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 8 Feb 80 pp 1, 4

[Text] Mar del Plata, Buenos Aires—In response to a question concerning the recent report of the U.S. State Department on the effectiveness of human rights in Argentina, the commander-in-chief of the Army, Lt Gen Leopoldo Galtieri declared: "We Argentines are solving Argentine problems."

The newest member of the Military Junta also described 1980 as "an interesting year for Argentines," stating that, if an analysis were made of the past 5 years, "it would be quite clear that there has been favorable progress toward the common welfare of our people, which I think will continue to hold true."

In comments published in the local morning paper, LA CAPITAL, the military commander also discussed the status of Maria Martinez de Peron and other former officials under arrest, explaining: "We shall continue the practice of making periodic analyses of those cases on a high national level."

Incomprehensible

Lt General Galtieri was first asked about the U.S. State Department's report, disseminated last Tuesday, on the observance of human rights in Argentina, and the criticism made on the same issue by international forums.

He replied: "The Argentine people find positions such as these incomprehensible. I have always maintained that Argentina is a pioneer in the area; because, in 1813, the Assembly abolished slavery on the national territory, whereas it took other countries over 100 years, and they did so with a certain amount of hesitancy."

Argentine Problems

The Army chief declared: "We Argentines are solving Argentine problems;" arguing that, "What is happening here is like something in a neighborhood where they speak badly, or intrude in someone's house; but those are problems of one's own house, and therefore the family should solve them."

He remarked: "Incidental circumstances in the lives of nations cause things to happen which at times are not at all pleasant for anyone;" but "Argentina has set an example for the free world throughout its entire existence, ever since we became a free country; something which has not occurred in the case of other developed countries in which those rights have not been upheld."

Future Relations

When asked about the future of Argentina's relations with the United States, after the refusal to participate in the grain boycott against the Soviet Union, the military leader said: "The situation that we have experienced recently, during January, has been interesting."

He declared: "The gesture of the United States Government, in sending General Goodpastor as President Carter's personal envoy is important in facilitating the relations."

He stressed: "The greatest difficulties, both in the international and the national area, occur when there is no dialog, or when the dialog is stalled by one or both sides."

Constructive Gesture

He added: "I believe that this gesture is constructive, and will facilitate the dialog, wherein mutual interests may approach one another, while maintaining individual viewpoints."

He said: "We are all members of the American family, and reaching agreement on American policy is what is essential to the continent."

The Next Junta Meeting

In connection with the meeting of the Military Junta which will take place on 13 February, he said: "I shall take part in it, and several topics will be discussed. I think that the spectrum to be dealt with will be general, so as to start the year with an outline of the national and international situation that will enable us to progress in the work of the Junta," after a "January included in a very stable political summer."

He added: "The year will be interesting for Argentines."

The commander-in-chief of the Army also maintained that Argentines "should envision the country on the way toward an objective marked by common welfare."

Favorable Process

He said: "We cannot expect abrupt changes in the situation from one year to the next, but if, as we have felt, we stop and observe the nation during its past 5 years, it will be quite clear that there has been favorable progress toward the common welfare of our people, and I think that this will continue to hold true."

Economy and Inflation

With regard to the issue of the economy and inflation, Galtieri reiterated: "Although I am a member of the Military Junta, I shall have my first formal contact with the other commanders during the next few days."

He went on to say: "Moreover, the government of the Armed Forces is responsible for drawing up the plans that are being carried out," but "the daily, periodic driving force and control of public administration is an essential function of the president, his cabinet and his group of collaborators."

He gave a reminder that the Military Junta is the "supreme organ of government, and is not involved in daily affairs, but rather in the devising of the major policies that must be implemented in the government's action."

Those Under Arrest

With regard to the status of those under arrest, such as Maria Estela Martinez de Peron, and other officials of the previous government, he commented: "The former president comes under the military justice system, and there are also the Institutional Acts which the Military Junta has implemented since 24 March 1976."

He continued: "Each case has been analyzed individually, never all together, and each case has been subjected to a periodic analysis;" something which "has been providing the guidelines, and the conclusions from each study indicate the measures to be adopted."

He explained: "Right now, I cannot say what will happen in this regard during 1980," but "I can say that the practice of making periodic analyses of the cases on a high national level will continue."

He observed: "During recent years, the status of some of the individuals who had been included in the Institutional Acts has been progressively changing, and some have even been released."

2909

CSO: 3010

POLITICAL COLUMN REFLECTS FAVORABLE ANALYSIS OF RIGHTS DOCUMENT

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 10 Feb 80 pp 8, 10

[Article: "Despite Everything, Relations Have Improved"]

[Excerpts] Argentina and the United States

After a very long period of time, the first signs of a consistent improvement in the relations between Argentina and the United States are beginning to be discerned. Both in Buenos Aires and Washington, government officials are already admitting, at least privately, that a new trend is developing.

In order to reach the essence of the new situation, we must examine the manner in which both countries clashed again this week in the matter of human rights and the intervention of one nation in the internal affairs of another.

In fact, if the probe of the relations between Argentina and the United States took into account only the existence of another clash such as the one which occurred following the State Department's report to the U.S. Congress, one could only conclude that there had been a worsening of those relations. But the assessment becomes quite different if an evaluation, indicating the circumstances, is made of that document, wherein the Carter administration informed Congress of its views regarding the status of human rights in each one of the 154 nations with which the United States has diplomatic ties.

To be sure, a detailed reading of that document from the White House should be accompanied by a supplementary report on the groundrules that the parties concerned have applied under these circumstances.

Three Fundamental Facts

The document itself does not make any critical judgments regarding the battle against subversion that have not been expressed heretofore by U.S. Government spokesmen. But, in its wording, it is obvious that an effort was made to underscore, among others, three fundamental facts with respect

to Argentina: In the first place, there was a proper depiction of the context of national dissolution (with "courts of justice and political leaders who were subjected to intimidation"), wherein the Armed Forces, under the Army's direction, began to operate against the subversion. Secondly, there was recognition of the existence of an obvious desire to curb excesses, and of backing for a gradual trend toward the full operation of human rights. Thirdly, a complete idea was given of the size of the subversive forces which the legal forces had to counter; finally explaining the fact that there was a real war, although not of a conventional type.

The aforementioned depiction of the phenomenon that the country has had to experience, which is essential for an understanding, not only of the previous years, but also of Argentina's immediate prospects, was apparently omitted from the preliminary report of the Inter-American Human Rights Commission (CIDH), which the military government is willing to contest.

But the CIDH may have gone much further than the United States Government, in a different sense: Its report even challenges the institutional system that has been in effect here since March 1976. Hence, the foregoing details more than suffice to predict the differences between the Vance report to the Capitol and the position assumed by the members of the CIDH in their preliminary report.

The Publication of the Report

Furthermore, it should not be forgotten that, apart from the chapter on repression and subversion, the American report on the Argentine situation gives a favorable account of the military government. And, although all that we have noted does not suffice to explain completely the Casa Rosada's decision to make the report from Washington public on its own, it is a partial explanation for this.

The other part of the explanation is that, by publishing the text of the document in question, there was achieved a neutralization of the possible publication of cables wherein the foreign news agencies could only deal partially with the document. Experience indicated to the government that, if this were to happen, it would not be likely to benefit.

Actually, the decision made by the Argentine Government to release the State Department's report to the press using its own facilities was arrived at in conjunction with the following measures: a. To wait for the publication of the complete report in the local media; b. subsequently, a call from the undersecretary of foreign relations, Comodoro Cavandoli, to the American ambassador, Dr Raul Castro, to express to him, in a "verbal letter," according to the rules of diplomacy, Argentina's displeasure at the interference in our affairs represented by the State Department report; c. the issuance of two communiques: one by the Foreign Ministry, notifying the public of that protest, and another from the Casa Rosada, with a comment on the situation which had been created.

Reliable sources have claimed that the meeting between Cavandoli and Castro was cordial, if such a term is pertinent. The Argentine official reportedly told his interlocutor that, just as the United States had previously informed Argentina that "the groundrules" had prevented the Carter administration from making a report other than the one that it did make, Argentina now found itself forced to protest publicly, as well.

Two Communiques

The only aspect of the diplomatic treatment of the aforementioned issue this week that was apparently unclear was the fact that the communique from the Foreign Ministry reporting on Undersecretary Cavandoli's meeting with Ambassador Castro had a comparatively more forceful tone than the communique from the Secretariat of Public Information of the Presidency, the next day. In fact, if the communique from the Casa Rosada was to be addressed to the "internal front," as was specifically hinted when it was released to the press, it would have been natural to lend it greater forcefulness than the communique from the Foreign Ministry, which was issued from government to government.

The communique from San Martin Palace mentioned the "deterioration" which the practice of issuing reports such as the one sent by the State Department has caused in the relations between the two countries. When used in a communique from the Foreign Ministry, the term "deterioration" has a stronger sense than it would have had in a communique from the presidency which, precisely because it was addressed to the "internal front," should not have considered the implicit terms on which the government-to-government relations, that is, the relations between the Foreign Ministry and the State Department, have been proceeding lately.

If, as we infer, not all the coordination necessary for the preparation of the two communiques was present, and the one from the Foreign Ministry did not afford the one from the presidency an opportunity to assume an even more forceful tone, this is something of concern only insofar as it might have made observers uncertain sometime during the week as to the true status of the relations between Argentina and the United States.

A Cautious Attitude

From another standpoint, the Argentine Government has been cautious about refraining from giving signals that the real improvement in Argentine-American relations is a victory for itself.

It is not Argentina in particular which has admitted mistakes; the United States has admitted its own mistakes in its negotiations with Argentina. Hence, it is not important if Mrs Patricia Derian attempts to give the State Department credit for the announcement that there is a favorable tendency toward human rights in Argentina thanks to the pressure from the

United States. Her role consists of stating things as she has stated them, but what is important to note here is that, for the first time, the advocate of the State Department's hard line has acknowledged this week that, in Argentina, "a dramatic reduction in the number of missing persons has been noted," and that "one has the impression that things are moving there."

That "dramatic reduction" had occurred long before General Goodpaster's visit, but it is not until now that there has been evidence that things are moving in Washington as well.

At the last meeting with his cabinet, before leaving on vacation, Minister Martinez de Hoz stated, behind closed doors: "We have achieved great success in our relations with the United States, although this should not be said publicly."

Martinez de Hoz told his collaborators that the United States has finally recognized the fact that Argentina has a significance that is greater than that accorded it in the mutual relations.

2909

CSO: 3010

BUSSI DISCUSSES POLITICAL PLANS

Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 13 Feb 80 p 5

[Text] Cordoba--Yesterday, the Third Army Corps Command summoned the correspondent from this newspaper, to whom it submitted a brief news release containing the statements made last week by the head of that military entity, Div Gen Antonio Domingo Bussi, in the Tucuman locality of Teniente Berdina.

At this time it was noted that these were the verbatim statements, and not those published on that occasion. Following is the complete text of the aforementioned communique: "I am happy because I have discovered that the spirit which made the military victory over subversion possible has been kept alive. Upon encountering these happy countenances and these enthusiastic people again, I feel very reassured; because I think that it is an expression of the population's solidarity with the National Army which, together with the people, has been the great protagonist."

The commander of the Third Army Corps, Div Gen Antonio Domingo Bussi, responded to the press in these terms.

The dialog with the military commander took place shortly after the conclusion of the ceremony held in the town of Teniente Berdina, marking the fifth anniversary of "Operation Independence" in Tucuman Province.

The deep feeling and admiration expressed by the inhabitants of the province prompted the following question:

"Could the signs of affection which placed you in a prominent position during the celebration cause you any discomfort?"

He replied: "By no means. The Armed Forces are comprised of very mature people. Furthermore, and I do not want to appear immodest in this regard, I consider this an expression of the people's attitude toward the Army, whose express orders I have carried out. Therefore, I accept it, and it fills me with pride and joy.

"I think that the entire country will gradually become identified with the Armed Forces, whose only goal is that of greatness for the nation.

"With the solidarity of all the citizens, we shall have created the nation which the historical times in which we are living demand of us, and which our children demand of us."

'I Am No Good for Politics'

When asked about his activities in the future, when he becomes retired, and whether they might include politics as a career, he declared: "I repeat, I am no good for politics. I am a man of arms. I was born for this, and I would like to die in that position. What I do want, like all good Argentines, is that the nation find the true path of harmony, peace and happiness. The Armed Forces are working on this. The next steps will be aimed at the establishment of an authentic democracy which will be in effect for 100 years."

General Bussi commented on the battle against terrorist subversion. In this regard he said: "Now that it has been defeated in the military area, we shall attempt to eradicate it from other sectors of national life. This task is somewhat more difficult than the former. The fronts exist in all areas of national activity, and they must be attacked with good judgment."

The commander of the Third Army Corps underscored the task performed by the group which is directing the national economy, and also in the labor area where, he said: "Fair groundrules are being sought, which will give each individual what he deserves."

General Bussi stated: "All the citizens, each in his own realm, are leading the country toward its great destiny. I do not see any exceptions. There are some who are mistaken, and some who are hasty; but, in the long run, with the subversion defeated, there is a desire here to create a country of grandeur."

Human Rights

Although he declined to express an opinion in response to a question related to the recent document released by the U.S. State Department concerning the human rights issue, General Bussi said: "Argentina has been a free or independent country since 25 May 1810. We need not be concerned about what other countries may think of our way of life and other problems which might exist. We are quite sure of what we have done, what we are doing and what we are going to do. Let no one harbor any doubts that we shall continue in that direction. We, the Argentine Republic, are neither a watertight compartment nor an island. We are part of a world, and so long as this Marxist, subversive ideological war continues in the world, we cannot claim

to be free. This is the reason for the warning that was given to us by the commander-in-chief of the Army."

When asked about the significance of the town of Berdina and the celebration which had been held a few minutes earlier, he said: "This has been and is a symbol and a matter of great pride, as well as a renewal of the commitment that we still have to our citizens and to the cause of the nation." General Bussi stressed: "All this has been a very thrilling occasion for me, and much more which cannot be expressed in words, but which is felt keenly in the heart."

As for the country's prospects for attaining national civic maturity, and a receptiveness toward democratic institutions, he declared: "We are making rapid progress in that direction, and I am certain that we shall attain the proposed goal, which is a concrete desire of the Armed Forces."

On the subject of the destruction of subversion, General Bussi emphasized: "We have won the military victory, but we have not ended the war; because this concept includes the elimination of residual elements which, make no mistake, could still be entrenched in certain sectors of the nation. This certainly cannot be considered out of the question if we pay heed to Marxist practices and strategies, and the findings in the case which are continuing under the direction of the legal forces."

In response to a question, he also commented on the attacks made upon members of the national cabinet, which he deemed unimportant and insignificant. "They are slaps from drowning persons, as we Argentines say; and, in this respect, one cannot even remotely anticipate a resurgence of the subversion. I would call it the physical proof of its own elimination; when faced with total defeat, all that remain are acts of madness inherent in minds that must end for once and for all."

Insofar as the importing of subversion from other countries is concerned, General Bussi replied: "There is always the danger, because the world is being agitated by universal subversion. There is always the danger, and hence the comment by the commander-in-chief that the war has not ended. And, for this reason, we must in a way, at least spiritually, keep our heads and hearts alert. This is a conflict that is neither Argentine nor national. It is a conflict which has been generated, and agents from major centers are spreading it throughout the world, particularly on our continent."

On the subject of the guerrilla training camps abroad, General Bussi remarked: "Unfortunately, there are countries which give shelter and backing to these individuals, some of whom have come here bringing their poison. They come from those centers, and that is why we say that the war will end when there is peace in the world."

He also commented on his trip to China (Taiwan), saying: "It was in response to an invitation from the commander-in-chief of the Chinese Army, for the

purpose of becoming familiar, 'on the spot,' with its organizations and doctrines, and meeting with those professionals who really have had vast experience in the field that concerns us; because they are living in a constant state of war, and are involved in this same world. So it was simply a courtesy visit, for becoming acquainted and for information."

Finally, at the conclusion of the interview, General Bussi expressed his optimism concerning the Pope's mediation in the dispute with Chile, remarking: "I have complete trust in the Holy Father, and I believe that it will all end successfully."

2909

CSO: 3010

'LA PRENSA' ENDORSES OLYMPIC BOYCOTT

Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 14 Feb 80 p 8

[Editorial: "The Moscow Olympics"]

[Excerpts] Over and above the self-interested interpretations of foreign ministries, no one can deny that, in the eyes of the world, not attending the Moscow Olympics will signify censuring the invasion of Afghanistan, and that the opposite will represent acceptance, or at least tolerance of the Soviet military conquest, and of Sakharov's banishment in his own country. Only with a lack of understanding bordering on hypocrisy could one deny that sports practiced on a universal scale, with the participation of delegations of athletes who represent nations and who evoke the enthusiasm of multitudes, are not politicized. Therefore, boycotting or supporting the Olympic Games does not mean subjecting sports to other purposes which are alien to them; because either one of those attitudes would be the result of an existing situation, which does not comprise a mere possibility, but rather constitutes a real, current, objective fact.

As the president of the nation has said, the presence in Moscow of the sports delegations, including that of the Argentine delegation, if it attends, would give the Soviet head of government an opportunity to display his people's pride in the subjugation of countries behind the Iron Curtain, and in the crushing of the rebellions of the peoples of Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Poland who were demanding their liberty. Added to this is the fact that he could now show off the army's ignoble victory, and the virtual annexation of Afghanistan, which resulted therefrom. And he could also boast of the persecution of the dissidents opposed to the regime who (and this is certainly no coincidence, but rather a reflection of their moral and intellectual superiority) embody the loftiest values of science and philosophy.

Hence it is obviously impossible at present to separate world sports from international calculations and intrigue. The forthcoming Olympics in Moscow will be far more political than athletic, and at them the self-interests will count more than the unity among peoples. In the case of Argentina, there is no conflict this time between politics and sports, or between

pragmatism and morality which, whether rightfully or not, was invoked in connection with the grain embargo proposed by the United States. This time, we repeat, the conflict does not exist, because even selfishness dictates our absence from Moscow.

It is not in the interest of Argentina to tolerate the invasion and conquest of Afghanistan by the Soviet Union, because of the danger entailed in accepting this gross violation of the international legal order as a precedent. It is not in the interest of Argentina for our country to be unconcerned about the fate of peoples who could be cornered from outside, through an overt military attack, or from within, as was attempted in our case, through ideological subversion and the "dirty war." It is not in the interest of Argentina to forget that we have just marked another anniversary of the battle waged in Tucuman against guerrillas trained in communist "sanctuaries," protected and organized by Moscow. And, what is most important of all, the government should not set the unfortunate example of allowing an Argentine delegation to contribute to the glorification of the enemies of Western civilization, who have just shown cynical disdain, once again, for its morals and principles.

The first and foremost purpose of the Olympic Games is "world peace and brotherhood," symbolized by five interconnected rings, expressing the unity of the five continents, with their respective colors representing the various human races.

That aspiration will certainly not be fulfilled by holding the Olympic Games in Moscow, in the presence of the political heirs of Stalin, the executioner of free peoples.

2909

CSO: 3010

ARGENTINA

DROUGHT EFFECTS, OTHER DEVELOPMENTS AFFECTING GRAIN SECTOR

Drought Affects Grain Output

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 5 Feb 80 p 5

[Text] The drought parching an extensive region of the country is worrying both grain growers, merchants and authorities. Although appropriate information is lacking, private circles estimate that 30 percent of the country's corn production was lost because of the water shortage. Official circles do not venture any figures, but the feeling is that every day without rain causes a one percent drop in probable output. According to the information that has been gathered, the hardest hit areas are Pergamino, the sphere of influence of Rosario and other regions of Santa Fe. Crops are doing quite well in west and northwest Buenos Aires, while the so-called "auxiliary" corns in the Salado Basin have been burnt and are being used for grazing.

Reports from Pehuajo and Castelli point to the sizable drops that are expected in plantings, while reports from Bahia Blanca, Cordoba and Santa Fe indicate that recent rains have brought some relief but cannot, in any case, be considered the end of the drought.

Pehuajo

Pehuajo--The drought has reached alarming proportions in this district, affecting the summer crops of sunflower, corn and sorghum in particular. Although there was some slight rainfall in January, the high temperatures that month caused it to evaporate quickly. The early plantings of these crops are in better shape than those planted later.

As far as corn is concerned, the outlook is critical because it is in full flower and this is exactly when it needs moisture. Late-planted sunflowers have had their development sharply curtailed, and this has been aggravated by the invasion of "isoca medidora." There

have been two developments in the sorghum crop: early plantings have had serious germination problems as temperatures were low in October and November, and the growth of late plantings has been stunted by the lack of rainfall.

With regard to feed sorghum, which is characterized by a high output of green matter, the number of animals that it can feed per hectare is down very sharply. As far as soybeans are concerned, the batches planted early are in the best condition, given the serious overall outlook, but if it does not rain soon, they will be damaged just like the above crops because they are in full flower.

Castelli

Castelli--The lack of rain has been causing enormous crop losses in the region. The drought has been going on since early December, and this month's rainfall was more than 500 millimeters below normal.

With regard to crop conditions, estimates are that around 80 percent of the corn and 60 percent of the sunflower crops will be lost, and the feeling is that the losses could be total if there is not a significant amount of rainfall in the next few days.

Rains in Bahia Blanca

Bahia Blanca--The rainfall recorded last weekend in the region was described as very timely by circles close to farmers. It alleviated an incipient drought that was affecting mainly the sunflower, sorghum and corn crops.

The drought has also prevented the plowing of land earmarked for grazing and the preparation of tracts for the next harvest. The recorded rainfall was very irregular, fluctuating between 3 and 40 millimeters.

Santa Fe

Santa Fe--Weather conditions changed yesterday in this capital and in the central and northern areas of the province in general, as steady, though not heavy rainfall was recorded. There was irregular rainfall Sunday evening in the northern part of 9 de Julio Department.

Monday's rainfall data indicated that 25 millimeters fell in San Cristobal in the evening. It again rained between 5 and 10 millimeters in 9 de Julio; 15 millimeters in Vera; 5 millimeters in General Obligado; 18 millimeters in Caray, and 13 millimeters in Castellano.

Monday's rain covered the department of San Ceronimo and benefited the sunflower, sorghum, soybean and strawberry crops. In San Justo Department the rain will help the soybean crops. Nevertheless, the general reports that are coming in are not very favorable, especially with regard to the corn crops, which are considered lost.

The recorded rainfalls in other departments of the province have not been confirmed.

More Rain in Cordoba

Cordoba--Rainfall has again been recorded in the province, thus consolidating the gains in the overall agriculture and livestock outlook, which was critical owing to the prolonged drought.

It also rained in this capital, which was suffering through one of the driest summers in recent years. Major rainfalls were recorded in most of the towns in the various regions of Cordoba. The following amounts were recorded: in this city, 40 millimeters (as of yesterday only 23 millimeters had been recorded throughout the spring and summer seasons); Cruz del Eje, 47; Los Sauces, 42; San Roque, 40; Montecristo, 33; Carroya, 34; Jesus Maria, 32; Rodriguez del Busto, 30; Cosquin, 34; La Falda, 30; Tolelo, 37; Capilla del Monte, 41; La Cumbre, 40; General Paz, 29; Villa del Rosario, 29; Despenaderos, 17; Laguna Larga, 15.

Only in the south was there no major rainfall, with only 0.5 millimeters in Laboulaye and 1 millimeter in Marcos Juarez.

Rainfall Records Termed Important

Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 4 Feb 80 p 6

[Text] During periods when it has rained throughout the country or over large regions, interested parties must have noticed that precipitation was not recorded in various places within such regions. We regularly publish such information in a separate section, and when we compare a series of figures, we can see that some reports omit rainfall data that are included in other reports, even though from various sources we know that it rained in both areas.

People are very worried at present about the drought threatening the corn crop. In northwestern Buenos Aires and in southern Santa Fe it has not rained for more than 60 days, which has seriously affected the corn growing cycle, this being the main crop in this important region. Soybeans are also feeling the impact of the lack of water. The yields of both these crops will be cut back, and estimates point to a sharp drop for corn, although the final results of the harvest cannot yet be anticipated.

In view of the grim prospects for agriculture, rainfall reports become particularly important because circles tied to farming await them with keen interest. We must not, however, conclude that there is a total lack of data in this field. Most farms keep their own records, and grain-related circles get some of their information from record-keepers in the interior. But we need official readings, the records of the National Weather Service. Its cumulative records, more than 100 years old in some cases, represent valuable scientific background information and must also, in emergencies such as now, be the unquestioned source of valid information in every respect for the interested parties, above and beyond their own data or reports. We should note that grain markets are highly sensitive to changes in the weather. At this very moment, the drought is having an effect on them, along with foreign policy.

The National Weather Service, a branch of the Air Force, will do honor to its well-deserved prestige by calling on rain-gaging stations to punctually report their findings, even though it might later leave out information that is insignificant or from contiguous districts. This will foster a discipline that other branches of the public sector would be well-advised to emulate.

Support Price Urged

Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 2 Feb 80 Sec 2 p 4

[Text] CONINAGRO [Agricultural and Livestock Intercooperative Confederation] has sent a note to Economy Minister Dr Jose A. Martinez de Hoz reiterating its concern over the value of farm output, sunflowers in particular, and highlighting the unfair sacrifices that growers are being subjected to in comparison to other sectors of the national economy.

Drop

CONINAGRO's analysis is that the real drop in sunflower prices is around 40 percent in terms of the average for the decade and 51 percent in terms of the maximum price anticipated for the same time period. The confederation points out that the falloff is attributable only to the item's downturn on the international market, because the situation is different domestically.

While the price of sunflowers rose 41.48 percent in 1979, the note says, the index of non-farm wholesale prices was up about 136 percent.

If a comparison is made with the index of agricultural inputs, the drop in the real value of sunflowers rises to 45 percent.

Costs and Prices

CONINAGRO adds in its presentation that the Secretariat of Agriculture and Livestock drew up the costs of producing and marketing sunflowers shipped to port. This came to 6,421 pesos per 100 pounds in April 1977, whereas by April 1978 the costs surged to 12,929 pesos for the same volume. At present it costs about 50,000 pesos to produce 100 pounds of sunflowers, whereas its marketing price is below 34,000 pesos per 100 pounds.

Lastly, CONINAGRO again asks the economy minister to set a support price for sunflowers and to lay a better groundwork for marketing. This is a particularly urgent priority inasmuch as sunflowers are a suitable crop for our marginal zones, which are impoverished today to dangerous extremes, even for the subsistence of those living there.

USSR Delegation Visit

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 2 Feb 80 Sec 3 p 2

[Text] The outstanding agricultural development last week was the presence of the Soviet delegation headed by Viktor Pershin, the eminent official who directs Exportkhleb, which is in charge of the buying and selling of foodstuffs for the country. And it was noteworthy even though it was one of the regular visits that the USSR pays to our country to organize its purchases of grains, meat, leather goods and wool.

The Soviet mission pursued its activities in the strictest secrecy; it could not be otherwise. Neither the Argentine officials with whom they had contact, nor the export firms with which they dealt, nor the meat-packing plants that they visited furnished precise information about their activities.

Now that they are departing, however, we can outline the results that have been achieved by interpreting signs, hints and a number of concrete facts.

Meat shipments to the USSR in January totaled 9,000 tons, but we should point out that this figure includes both January and December shipments. Russia normally buys processed, boneless meat, of which it purchased 30,000 tons last year, and estimates are that it could buy even more this year. The cutback in U.S. grain shipments on the one hand (grain that the USSR uses to fatten its livestock) and mounting consumer needs related to the higher standard of living there, on the other, are factors that will boost their meat needs.

We should point out that if the Soviet Union continues to purchase only processed, boneless meat, it will not be able to buy much more than our country currently sells it because this is an item of limited availability. Therefore, during the talks it was probably suggested to the delegation that it would be a good idea to add purchases of trimmed quarters and even cuts. We probably also pointed out the problems that the erratic presence of the USSR causes on the Argentine market, inasmuch as we never know when they will be dealing with us and when they will not. The delegation probably promised to consider the two proposals and convey them to the people with the decision-making power. We would initially suppose that meat purchases could rise, although the Soviet officials did not give any indications in this regard. Moreover, they were somewhat vague, because we could not determine whether the visit was prompted by commercial or animal health considerations (the latter are also of great concern in the Soviet Union).

In any case, as has been pointed out on previous occasions, Argentina is in a good position to handle higher Soviet demand, especially now, when the world meat market is suffering the serious consequences of increased oil prices and seems to have tightened considerably.

The Grain Market

The grain market is currently subject to a wide range of pressures. Some stem from the U.S. embargo on shipments to the USSR; others from the Argentine Government's decision in this regard, and a third group is the result of the drought that is presently parching our corn-growing areas and that, according to the responsible officials, could prompt a 30 percent drop in the estimated corn harvest and seriously damage the soybean crop.

Given the area under cultivation and traditional average yields, the corn harvest had been estimated, in view of the prevailing weather conditions, at some 9.5 million tons, some 6.5 million of which could be exported. Unfortunately, the drought scorching the main growing areas will cut the harvest to a bit more than 7 million tons and exports to some 4 million, which represents a serious setback for growers, exporters and the country.

We would suppose that a great deal, if not all, of the exports could be earmarked for the Soviet Union, even though this was not the expressly declared destination. We should recall in this regard that our laws do not require reporting the country of destination.

The uncertainty over our exportable balance has meant that very few export contracts have been registered with the National Grain Board, whose books were reopened last Tuesday. As of yesterday, only 1.4

million tons of corn exports had been listed; 300,000 tons of sorghum and 120,000 tons of soybeans were also registered. Inasmuch as the books are not going to be closed again, exporters are not filing declarations unless they have definite sales and available merchandise. Hence, by its decision the board has prevented a race for spots in the register and has given it clarity.

Another interesting upshot of the visit by the Russian officials is the possible sale of sorghum to the Soviet Union. Due to technical reasons, that is to say, the type of railway car used in the USSR to transport grains, it did not regularly buy sorghum, inasmuch as major amounts of it would be wasted. But in light of its expected needs, it might also purchase sorghum, which would enable us to add one more buyer to the list of the country's regular customers.

The Soviets are less interested in soybeans, above all because they can also turn to Brazil, the world's second largest exporter. Moreover, soybeans, along with corn, are suffering the consequences of the drought. There have been major losses on the early plantings, and in many places growers have not been able to plant the second crop over wheat stubble. This points to a considerable falloff in the harvest and, therefore, in exports. There was talk of a 4 million ton output with 3 million in exports; the current feeling is that these amounts have been cut by at least 500,000 tons each.

Grain, Oilseed Price Rises

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 2 Feb 80 Sec 2 p 4

[Text] Agricultural sources said that a "bull market" prevailed during the 4 days that a Soviet mission spent in Argentina to buy grains.

"Since the United States announced its grain embargo against the Soviet Union an incredible thing has happened: prices have risen as never before," said a grain trade source.

Prices of Argentine wheat, sorghum and soybeans have surged further this week, as the Soviet mission concluding its visit here undertook negotiations with grain export concerns.

Argentine Position

Argentina, which did not support the U.S.-advocated grain embargo, is one of the leading grain suppliers of the Soviet Union.

On Tuesday the National Grain Board reopened the grain export register, which had been shut down for 2 weeks.

On that same day a delegation from Exportkhleb, a Soviet agency in charge of foodstuffs purchases, arrived in Buenos Aires to do business with Argentine suppliers.

By Wednesday there were 1.4 million tons of corn ready for export, according to the books of the Grain Board; exportable amounts of sorghum and soybeans totaled 231,000 and 123,000 tons, respectively.

Experts said that the above figure for corn was equal to the total amount that the Soviet Union has purchased from Argentina to date.

Argentina, which in recent years has exported almost 20 million tons of grain a year, announced that it would not join the grain embargo ordered by U.S. President Jimmy Carter.

Carter's personal emissary, Gen Andrew J. Goodpaster, met last week with high-level Argentine officials, including President Jorge R. Videla, in a bid to persuade them to reassess their opposition to the embargo.

Foreign Trade

Last year Argentina sold some 1.8 million tons of corn and more than 200,000 tons of wheat to the Soviet Union. According to grain trading sources, before the U.S. embargo Argentina had sold about 1 million tons of wheat to Russia.

A grain trade spokesman said that "we have a bull market. We are not doing a lot of business because everybody is waiting to see what comes out of the Soviet mission and because the drought is preventing us from estimating the overall harvest."

Corn Production

Farm circles figure that the total harvest of corn, the main grain in which Soviet Union is interested, could be as large as last year's, which amounted to some 9 million tons. The drought could, however, cut the total to 7.5 million. (UP)

Emergency Measures Urged

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 1 Feb 80 p 8

[Text] The Argentine Agrarian Federation (FAA) has released a statement calling on the national economic team to take emergency measures, similar to the ones recently ordered for wool, pear and apple producers, to deal with the serious crisis besetting farm production in Chaco.

The declaration from the Resistencia regional delegation of the FAA points out that the difficult situation facing the Chaco farm sector is becoming worse because the current sunflower crop is also going to be a failure. This is because the going prices on the market are not profitable, and therefore growers "are hopelessly doomed to producing expensively and selling cheaply."

In view of this situation, the FAA regards it as "indispensable to voice its appeal to the Economy Ministry to adopt emergency measures without further delay in this case."

Farm leaders said that "not only will the sunflower crop be a failure due to negative profitability, but the exchange guidelines that are not keeping pace with inflation are being reaffirmed for 1980. This will prevent cotton fiber exports and domestic market transactions from generating enough income so that farmers can pay off their sizable debts and continue their activities."

The declaration states that the current crisis has brought the cooperative system to the brink of bankruptcy and could lead to unforeseen situations for the Chaco Bank, which "has been assisting debtors at normal rates." It then stresses the urgent need for emergency measures.

"If the national economic team," the document continues, "had no alternative but to bear the brunt of the crisis that regional economies are undergoing and has ended its inflexibility by granting special federal aid to Patagonia wool dealers and now a refund on pear and apple exports, it is inadmissible for Chaco agriculture to continue to be left on its own under conditions in which there is no possibility for recovery on the horizon."

Drought Effects Told

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 1 Feb 80 p 18

[Text] Santa Fe--Reports from the interior of the province indicate that the lack of water and the high temperatures in recent days are creating a difficult situation for crops, which are being hit by drought.

The lack of rainfall in the sorghum-growing region is conspiring against the plantings that are supposed to be done during this time of the year. The corn, sunflower and soybean crops face similar problems.

Operating data in the possession of the local Chamber of Commerce show that losses in the province's non-grain harvest total close to 20 percent so far.

The water shortage took on alarming dimensions in most of the coastal departments, where there are many farms, inasmuch as recorded rainfall fluctuated between 2 and 5 millimeters, which is insufficient for crop growth.

On the other hand, there was heavy rainfall in the departments of Vera and Obligado, as well as in Florencia, Tacuarendi and Villa Ocampo, where sugar, cotton and soybeans are grown. More than 60 millimeters of rain fell in these regions, and in the Tartagal district in Vera Department 80 millimeters of rain were recorded, which helped rural activities there.

8743

CSO: 3010

ELECTIONS OFFER OPPORTUNITY TO REORDER PARTY ALLIANCES

La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 19 Jan 80 p 3

[Editorial: "Constitutional Reform"]

[Text] The general expectation that has existed for several weeks regarding the scope that the coming elections should have has been fulfilled. The criterion that they be general elections, in other words that they include members of the legislative branch, has been imposed; this was the common sentiment, as confirmed in good measure by that enemy of deputies and senators—television—although what thousands of persons saw and heard recently for hours was not devoid of the exceptions that always exist, such as wanting the present congress to continue functioning for 3½ years longer.

However, the call for elections has a disputable adjunct: in its initial sessions the next congress will function as a constitutional assembly, that is, it will have the mission of reforming the constitution now in effect.

It is difficult to legally justify such an arrangement: No constitutional congress, such as the present one, has the power to summon a constitutional assembly; if it desires to reform the constitution, it can do so in accordance with the procedure set forth by that same constitution. But if that justification is difficult, it will be even more difficult to rescind the resolution, and so within 6 months we shall have a constitutional assembly functioning. This incongruence is added to those to which deputies and senators have been party during the short period in which they have performed their duties.

If we are going to have constitutional reform, we must concern ourselves with it right now.

First of all, let us emphasize that there will not be a new constitution unless the present one is reformed, leaving many of its essential aspects in force, such as those relating to rights, guarantees, system of government, division of powers, etc. We must lay aside excessive desires, a

doubtful source of prestige, when speaking of the new constitution, for otherwise we shall only live up to Bolivia's undesirable reputation as the country that has had the greatest number of coups; we shall also gain the record for the number of constitutions, and we shall have another proof of how little they are respected.

As for the reforms themselves, we must take into account the fact that the task of drafting them requires serious, and to a great extent, technical work. It is not a question of improvisations and mere good will. We must not approve reforms which will in a short time display serious defect. It is not a question of merely having some general ideas along certain lines--that can be done by any person--but of molding clear articles that are in accord with the entire juridicial system, realistic in order not to be a mere theoretical, abstract statement, and perspicacious in regard to the resources that will be made available to see that the legal mandates are fulfilled. In the legislative task, which is much greater when dealing with the constitution, it is necessary to weigh every word and every sentence.

Therefore, it is necessary to begin to study the reform proposals right now, and it must be done by the political parties, through specialized agencies that they have or should have. Only with several months of work, and time is running short, can we come to grips with reform that will improve and not worsen the constitutional text.

Moreover, it is obvious that reform proposals that are specific resolutions and not mere general utterances, which are always apt to include a large dose of demagogy, will have to be a part of the program of government that each party or group of parties presents to the citizens for their vote.

7428

CSO: 3010

VARIOUS MNR SECTORS CALL FOR REUNIFICATION OF PARTY

La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 19 Jan 80 p 5

[Text] Various sectors of the MNR [National Revolutionary Movement] are clamoring for the reunification of that party and for respecting orders democratically emanating from the party's 13th National Convention, and to that end they have requested participation, according to a statement made yesterday by the permanent secretary of the political committee, Javier Cortez.

That leader stated that in the last few days leaders of dissident sectors have opened talks, "which we are sure will culminate in the unification of the MNR based on the resolutions of the convention, which they will attend and set forth their differences of opinion."

He excluded from those sectors the one called "Renovation," directed by Guillermo Bedregal and Fellman Valarde, maintaining that "they do not constitute a serious group since it is a question of three persons whom no one follows due to their antidemocratic and antipopular tendencies and their fondness for coups."

He mentioned that there are other generational sectors which detached themselves some time ago "from the main trunk which is the MNR directed by Dr Victor Paz Estenssoro and that they did not vary greatly in their political line. In due time we shall reveal the concrete results of those talks."

He explained that "it is not precisely a question of a reunification, but of the return of all those groups, sectors, and militants to the main body of the party, because for reasons of tactics and strategy they had differences of opinion, but in the present situation, analyzing the various characteristics of the process which we are experiencing, they have decided to discuss these differences in order to strengthen the MNR, which constitutes the vanguard of the national revolution."

Asked whether the convention would hold sessions of criticism and self-criticism to this end, he stated that "the nature of the MNR is essentially

democratic and based on principle, and that system has prevailed since its founding, for in that way experiences are properly assimilated and the party is strengthened at all levels."

He added that that is precisely the system under which the HNR has functioned for more than 40 years.

7428

CSO: 3010

CONCRETE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM URGED

La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 13 Jan 80 p 3

[Editorial: "The Reordering of Political Alliances"]

[Text] The call for new elections provides an opportunity for the political parties to form alliances that are coherent, solid, and harmonious in principle and action.

Such requirements should always be fulfilled, but in reality this is not what has happened. It must be admitted that several of those recent alliances were misguided due to the fact that they were composed of excessively disparate elements. It is evident that on most occasions the nucleus of the alliance was formed by a party of well-known persuasion and ideology. But grouped around them were sectors so small that they were only known by some citizens or parties of such opposing positions that their presence backing the same policy was inexplicable. There was a very widespread belief that the need for making an impression with lists of names and an accumulation of abbreviations was more important than the desire to have a base that was both broad and solid.

Generally speaking, this tactic was frowned upon because, as events demonstrated, it did not guarantee a common, strong, continuing action, but carried the also proven danger of dispersion. Disproportionate representation was given to the so-called taxi parties--given this name because, according to the popular saying, those attending a large national meeting fit in one taxi. The presentations that have been given in the Congress by representatives of the same alliance disagreed on all or almost all points. Divisions and subdivisions quickly appeared, and even clashes between the very ones who were supposed to work together. There was not a minimum of unity either in matters of doctrine or in practical action.

The worst thing was that the citizens were forced to vote, by virtue of the straight ticket system, even for those for whom they had no liking, for those who held opposing ideas. That is to say, a citizen picked a presidential candidate and automatically cast his vote for all those included with him on the slate of deputies and senators; under the law

in effect there was--and still is--no provision for selecting in order that the real power of each of the members of an alliance might be established. The same situation can occur in the next elections if, as is probable, the straight-ticket system is still in effect.

At least, if such is the case, let such tickets be made up on the basis of parties from a group that is coherent in its basic principles and its main lines of action. Let there be no repetition of momentary alliances and those of mere convenience.

It may be said that if this principle were applied there would be an enormous dispersion of votes and a healthy pluralism in the partisan representations in the chambers would be prevented. It does not appear that such a risk is real and substantial. What will happen is that the tiny parties will have to withdraw from the elections rather than make a ridiculous showing or will have to be completely assimilated in other larger ones; in that way there will be a rational number of parties. On the other hand, excessive dispersion in the chambers will be avoided, and such dispersion is dangerous because it prevents the formation of a government with sufficient legislative support to have solidity and continuity in its acts.

What has already happened in the chambers and outside them can be taken as an antecedent for the limits within which alliances that may be formed for the coming elections have to function.

7428

CSO: 3010

ANGOLA TO OPEN EMBASSY IN BRASILIA; OIL PACT TALKS SLATED

Foreign Policy 'Western Drift'

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 30 Jan 80 p 5

[Text] The Foreign Relations Ministry of Angola announced in Luanda yesterday that it will have an embassy in Brasilia before the end of this year, according to ANGOP, the Angolan press agency. The report was confirmed by press agencies in Lisbon, which added that Angola will be the first Portuguese-speaking African country to establish regular diplomatic representation in Brazil.

In Brasilia, Itamaraty [Brazilian Foreign Ministry] spokesman Bernardo Pericas said the Brazilian government received "with pleasure public confirmation that Angola intends to open an embassy in Brazil soon" and that "it sympathized with the difficulties of the Angolan people and the eventual delays in their nation's plans following the death of former President Agostinho Neto." Pericas believes the embassy will be very useful for developing relations between the two nations.

Thaw

Opening the Angolan embassy in Brasilia will culminate the process of thaw between Brazil and the former Portuguese colony, a process that faced politically unsettling moments. In the first place, there was the reaction of the Angolan guerrilla movements to the position taken by Itamaraty when Angola was still a colony. During that period Brazil systematically voted with Portugal in the international agencies or abstained, which, to the Angolan nationalist movements, meant the same thing.

For this reason the thaw was gradual. On behalf of the Brazilian government, Ambassador Italo Zappa, the formulator of Brazil's Africa policy, held preliminary talks with the leaders of the independence movements and Brazil was represented equally with all of them. The imminent victory of one of the movements, the MPLA--Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola--led the Geisel government to officially recognize "the government installed in Luanda." When the Portuguese left Angola, that government was the MPLA, then led by Agostinho Neto. Brazil was the first to recognize the new nation.

But that did not immediately dampen the resentment aroused by Brazilian support for Portuguese colonialism. Much persuasion was needed to make matters less troublesome for Brazil in Angola. For a time the Brazilian government also complained that its interests in Angola were being thwarted by the presence of Cuban advisers in Agostinho Neto's administration. Little by little, relations were restored and confidence in the Angolan government was established. It was also necessary to overcome domestic resistance. Military sectors in particular were opposed to a privileged relation with a Marxist government in Africa. After much effort, Itamaraty managed to convince such circles that Brazilian interests, not ideology, were at stake.

Western Drift

Agostinho Neto's death did not alter the pace of the approach. The new president, Jose Eduardo dos Santos, asserted that policy would not change, including that toward Brazil. And this is occurring. The task was made easier by Angola's "Western drift," which was initiated to compensate somewhat for the preponderant influence of the Soviet Union and Cuba.

The Angolan Western drift became clear in the visit to Angola by special U.S. State Department representatives and in permission for Western powers to open embassies in Luanda. There is also a reopening of the political dialog with Zaire, whose president, General Mobutu, is a relative of the head of a guerrilla movement (FNLA--National Front for the Liberation of Angola), Holden Roberto. By tacit agreement, Mobutu stopped giving support to the FNLA but, in compensation, Agostinho Neto assured Zaire that under no circumstances would he suggest or permit Cuban intervention in the rebel province of Shaba.

BRASPETRO Oil Exploration Contract

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 29 Jan 80 p 22

[Excerpt] Brasilia--PETROBRAS [Brazilian Petroleum Corporation] President Shigeaki Ueki announced yesterday that in March he will go to Luanda at the head of a technical mission to conclude negotiations begun 15 days ago by BRASPETRO [PETROBRAS International, Inc] specialists for a contract to explore for petroleum on Angolan territory.

Ueki met with Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro yesterday to report on negotiations PETROBRAS has held with Iran and Saudi Arabia. He revealed that talks were begun yesterday with Petromin, the Saudi state enterprise, for direct purchase of oil, but he declined to mention what volume will be imported.

Negotiations with Saudi Arabia are being conducted through Petromin and Aranco, a consortium formed by Chevron, Texaco and Mobiloil. PETROBRAS wishes to increase the amount of oil supplied through the Saudi state enterprise.

Ueki said that purchases from Aranco have been carried out normally, with a daily supply of 165,000 barrels assured for this year.

Besides concluding the risk contract with Angola for oil exploration by BRASPETRO, Shigeaki Ueki will discuss with SONANGOL [National Angola Oil Company], Angolan state petroleum enterprise, the reasons for noncompliance with the contract signed for this year. Brazil negotiated with the Angolan government for a supply of 20,000 barrels daily, beginning this month, but only about 7,000 barrels have been furnished.

The PETROBRAS president asserted that there is very great need for coordination of efforts and only with the aid of Itamaraty can the petroleum supplies the country will need this year be assured.

Angola Demands Air Service

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 25 Jan 80 p 5

[Text] Brasilia--VARIG [Rio Grande do Sul Air Line] is requesting a subsidy from the Brazilian government to cover the deficit it may have in reactivating a route to Luanda, which is demanded by Angola and would serve the political interests of Brazil in that country and in its part of Africa. VARIG alleges that, at least in the beginning, the line would not be economically feasible and it announced therefore that it would be interested in operating in Angola only if official financial support were available.

Itamaraty sent an official letter to the Finance Ministry supporting VARIG's request and stressing the political interest of Brazil. However, the matter has not been studied because Finance Minister Karlos Rischbieter was dismissed a few days later. The request must now be approved by new Finance Minister Ernane Galveas.

Also interested in solving the problem and offering complete support to Itamaraty is Air Force Minister Gen Delio Jardim de Mattos. He recently guaranteed that he would put "aircraft in Angola within a short while," in a promise made to the Angolan minister of domestic commerce, Carlos Alberto van Dunen, who came to Brazil and brought the idea of the air route as his government's main demand.

The Luanda air route would not be direct, but rather a continuation of the one already going to Nigeria which, under normal circumstances, also operates at a loss. For that reason, VARIG also requested a subsidy from the Brazilian government when it was inaugurated. Since it was of political interest, the subsidy was granted. The same thing should now happen in relation to Angola.

The air route is now the only problem remaining in Brazil's relations with Angola. Other interests, even those involving private Brazilian business firms, are proceeding normally. Angola decided to broaden its contract with SISAL [expansion unknown], which is preparing a whole new hotel

infrastructure for Luanda, and renewed its contract with the Pao de Acucar group for furnishing food products. Another negotiation making progress is the sale of railroad cars to be used on the Benguela Railroad, which is being repaired after being damaged during the Angolan civil war. The Trading and Construction Company of Rio de Janeiro is in a position to furnish 400 railroad cars to the Angolan government.

Itamaraty is also trying to strengthen its dialog with Nigeria, considered a key country in Africa. The Brazilian government is interested in knowing the plans of the new Angolan government.

8834

CSO: 3001

LANGONI SEEKS MORE CONTROL OVER RECORD-HIGH MONEY SUPPLY

'Hand-to-Hand Combat'

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 1 Feb 80 p 22

[Text] Rio de Janeiro--Central Bank President Carlos Langoni asserted yesterday that control over the money supply will be strengthened to restrict inflation and all sectors must contribute their share without any further demands for offsetting compensation, referring specifically to bankers. In this regard he noted that elimination of some subsidized credit has now substantially improved banking profitability.

Langoni said that, of the 40.5 billion cruzeiros issued in December, 26 billion already have been removed from circulation during January and another 6 billion cruzeiros should be recaptured this week. He explained that the National Treasury surplus of 24 billion cruzeiros allows substantial money-supply reduction as well as placement of Public Debt Bonds.

He reported that 17 billion cruzeiros were collected at the last two DEDIP [Public Debt Department?] auctions, without the Central Bank setting any rate. According to the Central Bank president, the National Treasury Bills were well received because the market expects changes in compulsory reserves and the rediscount rate. Langoni said money-supply expansion of 73.7 percent (a record for recent years) is now declining to about 55 percent per year and, what is more important, this year there is to be a reduction in the monetary base and not simply in the money-supply multiplier.

The Central Bank will try hard, Langoni said, to avoid a liquidity crisis with recessionary characteristics, adding that agriculture and exports will be the only sectors with privileged credit. Asked how he would diagnose a liquidity crisis with recessionary aspects, Langoni's response was that it could be measured by the number of bankers lined up outside the Central Bank's door.

The Central Bank president said the monetary budget will be examined at the National Monetary Council's next meeting, but the government is still working on the original document's assumptions, with the Bank of Brazil already

adhering to the 45-percent ceiling on credit expansion. He said money-supply expansion will be limited to 50 percent (based on 45 percent inflation and PIB [Gross Domestic Product] growth of 5 percent, as a working hypothesis) throughout the year, "in a kind of hand-to-hand combat."

Regarding the interest-rate problem and the warnings made by the Central Bank to bankers, he pointed out that the arsenal of repressive measures is very extensive, ranging from administrative measures to freezing time deposits, suspending revolving credit at the Central Bank and even harsher rediscount measures. He thought the AMBID [expansion unknown] attempt at self-regulation was a good idea.

Record Money-Supply Expansion

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 30 Jan 80 p 24

[Text] Rio de Janeiro--Money-supply expansion in December 1979 was at one of its highest levels in recent times, hitting 73.7 percent for the 12 months of the year as a reflection of an economic policy to permit sufficient liquidity for the economy to absorb corrective inflation.

Data published yesterday by the Central Bank show the prescription was not to provide more rigid monetary control during the final months of the year, as was indicated by the monetary variables. In December alone 38.5 billion cruzeiros were issued, while 12 billion cruzeiros of paper currency were put into circulation during November.

The Central Bank data further revealed that paper currency increased by 81.3 percent in 1979. The monetary base expanded 79.6 percent, reaching 434.26 billion cruzeiros, with the money supply expanding to \$03.598 billion cruzeiros. Loans from the Monetary System (Bank of Brazil and commercial banks) to the private sector rose by 67.3 percent.

The authorities' passive control of non-monetary debt and other aggregates due to a policy of reducing interest rates and improving the profile of the public debt, together with increased deposits in foreign currency drawable at the Central Bank, were the factors that prevented monetary authorities from exerting more control over the money supply, according to Central Bank experts.

This excessive year-end liberality will be replaced in coming months by a restrictive monetary policy that may cause momentary liquidity crises, although the government does not want to shock the system. Some "sopping up" will take place, however, to reduce the excess liquidity currently in the system.

8834

CSO: 3001

JANUARY EXPORTS UP 20 PERCENT OVER 1979 FIGURE FOR MONTH

Confident Prediction for Year

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 31 Jan 80 p 34

[Text] Brazilian exports in January--exclusive of coffee sales--were 20 percent greater than in January last year, Benedito Fonseca Moreira, director of the Foreign Trade Department, announced yesterday at a meeting with directors of the Brazilian Association for Development of Basic Industries in Sao Paulo. He said the results could be attributed to substantial expansion of manufactured exports and optimistically predicted better results beginning next April, with agricultural crops such as soybeans being harvested.

With January's "very encouraging" results, Benedito Fonseca Moreira told the businessmen he is confident about export estimates for 1980. "The aggressiveness of Brazilian businessmen, responsible for the results achieved this month, will result in the predicted \$20 billion of exports," he said.

Regarding boycott of the Soviet Union by Brazil, as requested by the United States, Benedito Moreira remarked merely that "the idea is to export, period," and that the Brazilian position "is already well known."

Next week, the CACEX [Foreign Trade Department] director announced, import [sic; export?] licenses will be abolished and replaced by a simple export declaration, which will avoid the exporting firm's going to CACEX before shipping the merchandise. This is one of the measures CACEX intends to adopt to simplify Brazilian foreign-trade transactions.

Manufactures Top Basic Commodities

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 1 Feb 80 p 22

[Text] Rio de Janeiro--The share of manufactured goods in Brazil's total exports rose from 40.15 percent in 1978 to 43.84 percent in 1979, while the share of basic commodities fell from 47.22 percent to 42.73 percent and semi-manufactured goods remained virtually unchanged, increasing from 11.23 percent to 12.38 percent.

These data were reported yesterday by CACEX, which also confirmed that Brazilian exports were \$15.2 billion last year, compared to \$12.6 billion in 1978. Exports of manufactured goods were \$6.6 billion; basic commodities, \$6.5 billion; and semimanufactures, \$1.8 billion.

The CACEX data also revealed that average prices of major Brazilian products increased. Average prices were lower only for the following products: cocoa beans, iron ore, refined cocoa paste, crude castor oil, crude peanut oil and orange juice.

The volume of exported products increased 11.85 percent last year, with tonnage of 97.8 million, compared to 87.5 million tons in 1978.

8834

CSO: 3001

CURRENT STATUS, PROJECTIONS FOR NONFERROUS METALS VIEWED

Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 27 Jan 80 p 28

[Text] Nonferrous metals--zinc, aluminum, copper, nickel and tin--have acquired strategic importance in recent years, with their prices rising significantly due to stockpiling by industrialized countries.

The oil crisis and loss of confidence in the dollar, especially by Arab investors, transferred much investment to the metals sector, most typically gold, whose price increases in recent months have been the greatest since World War II.

The worsening United States-Soviet Russia crisis since invasion of Afghanistan by Russian troops has helped complicate the situation and caused U.S. specialists to include gold and copper among the five best investments for those with money to invest.

Policy

In this scenario, Brazilian prospects are not very good, since in the first 11 months of 1979 the nation spent \$576 million to import seven metals--aluminum, lead, copper, tin, magnesium, nickel and zinc--52.1 percent more than the \$378 million spent in 1978. Adding in scrap of these metals purchased abroad would bring the total to nearly \$1 billion.

To cope with this situation, in which metals prices invariably advance at the same pace that the crisis between the two superpowers worsens, the president of the Votorantim Group, Antonio Ermirio de Moraes, suggests two courses of action: 1) rapidly increased production of metals for which Brazil has good reserves, such as aluminum, nickel and zinc, creating exportable surpluses; 2) signing contracts with countries producing metals of which Brazil is in short supply, such as copper and lead, in order to assure long-term supply at constant prices.

Antonio Ermirio de Moraes believes the government must promptly and realistically define its policy in the minerals sector so the collapse of government plans does not cause future failures. He recalled that all of the Geisel government's projected goals for self-sufficiency were frustrated.

Copper Situation

Copper, next to lead, is the nonferrous metal in shortest supply for Brazil. According to the Brazilian Copper Institute, 187,200 tons were imported last year, costing \$378 million.

The rising international prices for this metal--which is the third choice of speculators, led only by gold and silver--greatly worries Brazilian industry and government authorities; last week especially, when its price hit \$2,960 for delivery 3 months from now in bars.

Prices also closed up the limit in New York, after rising an average of 10 cents a pound per month, an increase of 85 percent in the last 12 months. Brazil will import 214,500 tons of copper this year, which is 9.5 percent more than in 1979. Domestic consumption will grow 9.9 percent to 261,000 tons, which means Brazil imports 82 percent of its consumption.

The president of the Votorantim Group believes the ideal policy for copper would be to sign agreements with other Latin American countries to assure a long-term supply.

According to the London Metals Exchange, copper stocks are at their lowest level since January 1978 and the possibility of its replacement at the moment is minimal, as research on substitutes will take a long time yet to be concluded.

There are two projects in Brazil. The ELUMA project should begin operating next year, supplying 39,000 tons, or 15.7 percent of an estimated 248,000 tons of consumption. Expansion plans indicate, however, that the company may be able to meet 45.4 percent of domestic demand, producing 150,000 tons in 1985, when consumption should reach 330,000 tons.

The second big copper project, Caraiba Metals Corporation, may begin operating in 1982 and, when at full capacity, will supply 150,000 tons, of which 120,000 will be in square bars and 30,000 in electrode rods. There is still much uncertainty about this project, acquired by FIBASE [expansion unknown] from the Pignatari group in 1974. The major question is in regard to supply, as many industrialists do not consider the local mineral reserve sufficient to guarantee production for a long time. The company's investments have already reached \$1.1 billion.

In 1980 the nation will have to import only 48,000 tons of zinc and produce 90,000 tons, substantially reducing its dependency for this metal, whose apparent consumption is 138,000 tons, according to the ICZ (Brazilian Institute of Lead, Nickel and Zinc).

Last year 58,200 tons were produced from January through November, according to information from CONSIDER [National Nonferrous Metals and Steel Council]. Forecasts for the three companies in the sector for 1980 are: Minas Metals Company, 60,000 tons; Inga Trading and Industrial Company, 12,000 tons; and Paraibuna Metals Company, 18,000 tons.

According to the ICZ, Paraibuna Metals Company should begin operating in July, with an annual production capacity of 30,000 tons, and will produce 12,000 tons in its first year of operation. However, since it has only a refinery, it will import most of the concentrate to be consumed. For that purpose, it signed a contract with Peru to furnish up to 30,000 tons annually and will receive smaller quantities from Europe, besides absorbing about 7,000 tons from lead producers.

Short-term prospects for zinc prices are good for Brazil, since stocks in the hands of producers in industrialized countries are now 400,000 metric tons, making it essentially a seller's market. But the possibility of such stocks rising and prices along with them, cannot be discarded should the United States-Soviet Russia conflict tend to worsen. And the United States produces 900,000 tons for a consumption of 1.1 million tons, which means it is a buyer.

Lead

Brazil should export 5,000 to 10,000 tons of lead in 1980. Its production should reach 110,000 metric tons this year for a forecast consumption of 100,000 tons.

These exports, however, are illusory, since the metal will be produced largely from imported concentrates and scrap. COBRAC and Plumbum, leading companies in the sector that belong to the French Penaroya group, are authorized to import 65,000 tons of concentrate, which would contain 39,000 tons of lead. The two secondary producers--FAE and A. Tonnoli--should acquire abroad about 12,000 tons of lead in the form of scrap and the rest in the domestic market.

COBRAC and Plumbum have installed capacity of 65,000 tons and FAE and Tonnoli, 45,000 tons. Lead imports are prohibited, as the nation is considered to be self-sufficient in the sector, although domestic prices are higher than those in the foreign market. Whereas a metric ton of this metal is being sold for about 58,000 cruzeiros in the international market, it costs 67,750 cruzeiros here. The price difference between the two markets increased recently when the price of lead on international exchanges fell from \$1,200 to \$1,000.

Nickel

Brazil's best prospects for nonferrous-metals self-sufficiency are in nickel, of which it could change from importer to exporter, according to the Votorantim Group president, Antonio Ermirio de Moraes.

As yet, Brazil has only one nickel-producing company, Morro Nickel, of Brasimet, a U.S. group. The Tocantins Nickel Company of the Votorantim Group, whose mines are located in Niquelandia, Goias, will begin operating in April. The nation's nickel imports in the January-November 1979 period rose 35 percent over those of 1978, reaching 5,127 metric tons, according

to information from the Ministry of Industry and Commerce released by
CONSIDER.

Morro Nickel should produce 2,200 tons this year of nickel contained in nickel iron, intended for iron and steel mills and foundries. The Tocantins Nickel Company should produce 3,000 tons in its first year of operation, but production capacity in the first phase will be 5,000 tons and can be duplicated without much additional investment.

Besides these two companies, there is also the CODEMIM project, in Catalao, Goias. If all goes well this company will be producing 5,000 tons of nickel next year, which will assure the nation's self-sufficiency in this metal, consumption of which will be 11,000 tons in 1980.

Brazil should begin to export in 1982. According to Douglas Melhem Junior, ICZ executive manager, Mexican, Peruvian and Argentine importers have already shown interest. In this area, however, it is probable that measures will be adopted to protect national industry, since the current producers, in Canada, the United States and Japan, have experience, market control and prices varying between \$6,700 and \$7,000 per ton, with which it would be difficult for Brazilian firms to compete in the short run.

8834

CSO: 3001

BRAZIL

BANK OFFICIAL SAYS FOREIGN DEBT RENEGOTIATION NOT PLANNED

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 30 Jan 80 p 24

[Text] Brasilia--Broad-range renegotiation of the Brazilian foreign debt does not enter into the plans of monetary authorities. Jose Carlos Madeira Serrano, Foreign Area director of the Central Bank, yesterday labeled "unrealistic" any broader effort to renegotiate the debt "of a country that must attract foreign funds every year and enjoys the highest esteem in the international financial community, precisely because of the way it manages its debts." He added that the Central Bank has no requests for renegotiating contracts made by either private or state enterprises.

The Central Bank director's words made it quite clear that Brazil cannot strain the international financial market in the current state of "disarray" resulting from the Iran and Afghanistan crises and speculation in gold and strong currencies. But as an immediate effect of the uncertainty dominating financial circles, Serrano acknowledged that the "spread"--additional interest over the Euromarket rate charged by bankers to cover risk--should increase 0.125 percent to 0.25 percent per year in future transactions, with the maximum repayment period declining to 10 years.

In view of the necessary prudence--at least during this period of "instability" in the market--company announcements of future intentions, as those by the Light Company and the Rio Doce Valley Company, make monetary authorities uneasy. Serrano firmly denied any action to renegotiate the debt and, without wishing to mention any company names, he asserted that there are no renegotiation requests pending at the Central Bank.

According to him, the Central Bank will only accept--"as in the case of the SIDERBRAS [Brazilian Iron and Steel Corporation] request in 1979"--renegotiation requests if the due date of the foreign loan and the completion date of the project being financed are not compatible. "In analyzing requests, the essential condition for their approval will be verification of the projects' timetable. If the repayment periods are found to be shorter than the project's timetable, the company may renegotiate the repayment period with its creditors," Serrano stated.

The Central Bank director remarked that trying to deal directly with international bankers would not advance the interests of such companies, as barriers would go up immediately. "The first thing the foreign bankers will do is consult the Central Bank and the reply will be clear: only specific projects will be authorized for renegotiation."

Restrictions

The Central Bank's restrictions are intended to discredit the idea that Brazil will have great difficulty in repaying 64 percent of its debt in the next 5 years, \$7 billion of it this year alone. "The debt of \$49.45 billion is entirely manageable and Brazil has full capacity for repayment. Besides, the profile has been improving," insisted the Central Bank director.

In any event, Brazilian authorities consider "relatively slower growth of debt" advisable, even with the need to "liquidate" \$2 billion of exchange reserves. From December 1978 to the end of 1979 Brazil reduced its reserves from \$11.89 billion to \$9.7 billion and, to prevent foreign loans contracted this year from being greater than the \$9.6 billion contracted last year, the Central Bank director approved reduction to \$8 billion.

"Reserves of \$8 billion do not damage the nation's credibility. The bankers themselves condone lower reserves as within the policy of reducing the rate of debt expansion." The Central Bank official also defended "liquidation" of reserves immediately at the beginning of this year as a way to reduce pressure on the money supply and hence on inflation "throughout the rest of the year."

Borrowing

Serrano expressed the conviction that the nation will not face problems in borrowing about \$19 billion. Although the cost of foreign loans continues to be 3 or 4 percent per year higher than that of domestic transactions, he noted that domestic banks do not have funds for medium-term financing.

8834

CSO: 3001

CHILE

DECREE PROVIDING FOR FREE TRADE UNIONS STIRS CAUTIOUS HOPE

Santiago HOY in Spanish 6 Feb 80 p 5

[Commentary by Emilio Felippi: "Free Trade Unions"]

[Text] The Minister of Labor has announced to the country that a decree will soon be issued allowing the creation of free trade associations. Under the terms explained by the government minister this action will be an important opening for democratic participation in Chile.

According to the Ministry's announcement, "any natural or juridical person because of their profession, occupation or branch of production or services who wishes to organize to promote the rationalization and development of common activities as well as the protection of their legitimate interests," can form free trade associations without going through any other procedures. The leaders will be chosen by free and secret ballot and the unions shall be considered to be legally constituted following the publication of their articles of incorporation in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

Except for employers, always ready to support any government initiative, the country in general has received the announcement with certain caution and reservations. Without disregarding justified optimism about the progress that this measure could signify, there are reasons why it is better to wait for the exact terms and scope of the decree before passing judgment on it.

Of course our hopes are based on the fact that finally after 6 years apparently the need has been recognized for establishing free and independent channels of participation that are divorced from any government intervention and representative of the will of the rank and file. This step, even if it is taken only at the level of trade associations, will allow the expression of the real concerns of the members and show to what extent the country can really expect the government to truly satisfy their just demands and needs.

However, we are reminded of the attitude that has been taken with respect to the professional associations. These have been intervened and their

authority is gradually being eroded. In most cases the executive boards do not represent their members and, therefore, more readily serve the government's political interests than those of the union members they claim to represent.

The same thing is true for the communal associations and other type of groups such as the students.

And, to return to the Ministry of Labor, the confidence that he is demanding for his measure requires greater sensitivity on his part for the labor unions just comments on the Labor Plan so that his enthusiasm for the new trade unions law will not be interpreted as a concession to the unending demands of the employers or as an attempt to divide the popular will.

Despite all of these reservations, which are very objective, we were pleased with the announcement and view it sympathetically.

Those of us who believe in the role that intermediate groups should play in society know that everything that is done to make them free and sovereign is positive and encouraging. We trust that the letter of the law will not divert the spirit of the law on which it is based.

8599

CSO: 3010

CHILE

POLITICAL PARTIES PLAY VITAL ROLE IN DEMOCRACY

Santiago HOY in Spanish 6 Feb 80 p 12

[Commentary by Eduardo Jara Miranda: "Political Parties"]

[Text] It is common knowledge that a political contest is carried out on two levels. First among individuals, groups and classes that fight to gain power, take part in it or influence it and, second, between those in power and their supporters or to put it another way between the group of individuals in power and those who endure them. As the rules of the struggle and its framework are defined the expressions of antagonisms are organized and, as a result, these diminish. The struggle within the political system is, at the same time, a type of combat and integration since it expresses agreement on the basic principles of society and on the institutions which implement them.

The preceding concepts, taken from one of Duverger's many works, express the importance of political parties in today's political science. They are in essence organs of participation and political expression.

Those who share the idea of an authoritarian government have tried to dismiss these organizations and have proposed various formulas for replacing them ranging from a corporate style scheme to the recognition of "currents of opinion." This method of thinking would be contrary to modern political science views. In short, one of the most important political phenomenon of the last 30 years has been the development of parties that have become the basic pillars of democratic regimes. The predominant view has been to recognize and regulate political parties through the constitution, give them legal status, allow government agencies to tax their operations and even to provide funding for them.

In Chile the political parties organized and made society more open. They made it a pluralist society and made possible peaceful coexistence by organizing, expressing and channeling the processes of consensus, conflict, cooperation and political participation. The crisis of the democratic system, which we are mourning today, coincides with the crisis of the political parties and it would be foolish for us to ignore this point.

The interesting document made public by the Group of "The 24," which explains the parties' constitutional basis, reclaims the role played by the parties in political society by underscoring the essential characteristics of their organizations. It is worth mentioning the recent calls for the parties to support human rights and make a commitment to see that they are respected. The respect for ideological and political pluralism and the rejection of armed violence as a means of political action are concepts which should be included in the political parties statement of principles. A requirement of this kind guarantees that the defects which affected the rule by parties in the past can be overcome and these institutions will be able to fully assume their rightful role in Chilean democracy.

8599

CSO: 3010

TRUCKERS' LEADER ASSAILS LABOR PLANS AS 'RETROGRESSIVE'

Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 14 Jan 80 pp 8-9

[Interview of Leon Vilarin by Ruben Adrian Valenzuela, in column "Sal y Pimienta"]

[Text] Leon Vilarin Marin is no longer even the shadow of the proud and grandiloquent leader who stood up to deposed president Salvador Allende. His "boys," the truckers of Chile, are making the ground tremble under him, and despite the fact that the majority of the assembly gave him a vote of confidence, this weekend he had to withstand an earthquake of nearly seven on the scale, from which he emerged upright but battered.

They told him that he had lost his "in" with authorities in government, that he is no longer received in the ministries because he has lost prestige, that he is encouraging the creation of new organizations just in order to succeed, that some secretaries of state are once again receiving him "together with other leaders and not as the representative of the truckers who helped bring down the previous government.

The old leader still has much of the deftness and "dribbling" that characterized him. At the conclusion of the National Advisory Meeting held last Saturday and Sunday, he won approval from the assembly for another period of talks with the government. If they fail, he will still be able to call another advisory meeting which, if it chooses, could convene a national congress to...

"To change the board of directors if necessary, and see what stand to take against the stubborn silence from some authorities."

At the conclusion of one of the longest sessions of the advisory committee--during which calls for "national strike" "we want to go back to what we had on 11 September 1973" and "let's show that we still wear the pants, the way we showed Allende" were heard repeatedly--Vilarin agreed to grant this interview with "Sal y Pimienta". None of the questions went unanswered, although, obviously, the language is not precisely what was used during the interview.

Unity for What?

Question: In the latest issue of the magazine EL CAMIONERD, which is published by the confederation of which you are president, you issued a call for unity of the trade unions. Unity for what?

Answer: So that there will be a valid intermediary between the working men and the government junta.

Question: Who should be in that position?

Answer: I think that it is absolutely necessary for Chile to have an organization which includes the majority of working men. Not just those of us who are now in the Small and Medium Business Confederation, but also the professional groups and all sorts of organizations in which there are working men who are really representative of their sector....

Question: Or perhaps you want to be at it again.

Answer: No, why?

Question: Because it seems to me that you want to bring back the Business and Professional Associations Command that played such an important part in destroying the stability of Salvador Allende in 1973....

Answer: Not necessarily....Not necessarily. I think that each organization and its name belongs to a period of time and a goal. Here it is a matter of creating an organization that would have its standing as a juridical person granted by the government junta. It is not a center of power, but merely a valid spokesman, representing the workers before the junta... Unfortunately, that organization does not exist at the present time.

So That He Is Received

Question: In the assembly, someone said directly to you that you are encouraging creation of this new organization as a way of getting a group to join so that the authorities will once again receive you in their offices.

Answer: Yes, that is basically what a colleague said to me...

Question: Mr Alvarez.

Answer: Yes. He is a leader who has been on the fringes of the board of directors for many years, who is here as a guest and who, naturally, from the sidewalk and the comfort of his own hearth views the problem of how we are conducting ourselves differently from us from within.

Question: But is it correct that the government authorities no longer care to receive you?

Answer: I think what is not correct is that they are not receiving members of the professional association. Not that they are not receiving me personally.

Question: But representatives of the association are not being received in particular when you are a member of some of the delegations.

Answer: If you put things that way, I must tell you that many years ago, at the highest level of government, I said that if it were me that they did not want to see, they should tell me in a friendly way, "Your time is over, it is time for a change." No such thing has happened and, finally, I want to tell you clearly that, if it so desired, the government could change the board of directors of this confederation if it thinks that we leaders are not in tune with it, or that we are not the right persons to lead this association. You know they have the power, then...let them use the legislation to change us...

Question: That sounds like a dare...

Answer: No, no, no, it is not a dare at all. It is just my frank opinion.

Question: On the other hand, do you mean that you are still at the head of the confederation because that is what the government wants?

Answer: No, not at all. I am still in that position because I have just had a vote that you witnessed--unanimous--that is in agreement with my personal opinion and which I have presented at the last three meetings in which the question of whether we should present a single institution to the advisory board was considered. If the advisory committee and the national directorship agree, I am bound to think that I have the confidence of the majority of the association.

Question: Another charge that has been made is that you have lost prestige with the government. Do you think this charge is fair?

Answer: That is what you might call a subjective matter. A colleague may say that a particular minister does not like me. That obviously does not speak ill of me but of the minister in question. Now whether I have or have not lost prestige with the government is not something that can be measured on the basis of whether or not one is received...

Question: But the fact that you are not being received...

Answer: It is not that the authorities do not have time to see me, but that they do not have time to see the truckers either here or in Santiago, or in the provinces, or in the departments.

Question: What do you attribute that to?

Answer: I do not have a definite answer, but I think it must be that some authorities--not all of them--underestimate the importance of trucks and truckers for Chile's progress. I would like to say in passing that we have the best relations with and quickest access to three or four ministers ...We do not say that in the assembly in order not to discriminate, because comparisons are detestable and bad, but there are other ministers who do not receive us or any other professional association leaders at all.

Chileans Divided

Question: You have recently said that the government has made the mistake of dividing the people of Chileans into good and bad on the basis of who is for and who is against the junta...

Answer: That is correct, it is a remark I made in THE TRUCKER.

Question: Since you define that as a mistake, how would you divide the Chilean people?

Answer: The government is dividing the Chilean people by applying the Labor Plan and as long as that law is not modified, it will go on dividing them even more. I think, without fear of error, that those who are divided are not going to be very happy with the government...

Question: And you, what side are you on? Are you in the opposition?

Answer: No, I am no longer in the opposition...I disagree with the economic policy of this government--I have said that time and again--but my capacity to differ has its limits...I am not now in opposition to the government.

Question: But would you divide the people of this country into those who are for and against and those who do not care, who never get involved and just let things happen?

Answer: If you are asking me that question honestly, I will tell you, with my habit of never letting a question go unanswered, that like all governments, this one needs men to disagree with it, especially in the area of economic policy. This government--and I say this as a responsible citizen--needs an organized opposition. Usually when opposition is not being managed and is not at the service of other countries, it is a good opposition, and in Chile historically there has been the case that a president has come to understand that the opposition is right and not the members of his party.

The Failure of a Negotiation

Question: One thing that caught my attention in the assembly is that several times there were shouts that the truckers should again have the guarantees they had until 11 September 1973...

Answer: I am glad you were in the assembly to hear that. I told your colleagues to stay, because we had nothing to hide, because we truckers are like that...

Question: Yes, but does it not seem to you that, 7 years after the military government took control, those calls reveal that the whole movement you led was a failure?

Answer: I do not understand why you interpret it that way...

Question: Because all of you, especially the truckers, opposed the Popular Unity government, charging a lack of guarantees and respect for your rights. Then, asking to go back to what you had in 1973 seems to me a recognition that the entire movement was a failure and that now you have less than you had then.

Answer: I will explain to you what that means with respect to the truckers. With previous governments, we had nine things guaranteed by law...I will give you a document showing that. Obviously with Allende we did not get anything new...

Question: But those nine things that you say were in force at the time of Allende's government...

Answer: Of course they were in force and we did all we could to see that they were respected...Now all those things, every month, every year of the government of the military junta, we have been losing them bit by bit. We no longer have any of the rights we obtained by law, and that is why the association demands them, with legitimate indignation.

Question: What claim do you stress the most?

Answer: Basically one thing: the tax system we had, which was good for us and for the country, because the treasury could see our tax payment. The system was so good that a trucker could not leave Chile if, when he went to buy his ticket, he could not show his taxes paid to date. We lost that, and we now have a terribly burdensome tax system, and one of the things we are asking for now is that they lower the VAT [value-added tax] which is a tax on services, from 20 percent to 10 percent; that as it used to be they keep the obligation for the user to withhold that 10 percent; and that in addition they keep what the Tax Code provides at this time: that the 10-percent tax on services which is withheld by the user and which we ourselves pay, should be put down to a tax credit toward the payment of our taxes.

Question: But that is very difficult, because it creates an exception to the law which the government has been trying to avoid all these years.

Answer: Well, I don't know, but we believe, perhaps from a very simplistic

point of view, that that is very easy to do. The government believes that it is very difficult, but I think it is just a matter of interpretation.

Question: It is that it creates a dangerous precedent, because whatever is granted to you, other sectors of the economy will feel it is their right to ask for it too.

Answer: The precedent already exists. It has been granted to one sector of the transport business already by law...They have just abolished the 20-percent VAT on ship imports to the merchant marine sector. The government junta probably had very good and legitimate reasons for doing so, but we truckers think it is not good that we should be discriminated against. We do not like that, although we are not claiming we should be exempted from paying the 20-percent VAT. No, we just want it to be cut in half, with the two conditions I have given.

Question: I get the impression that you are never satisfied, and are always questioning what is being done for the professional associations...

Answer: Asking for the sake of asking, you mean?

Question: Sure, especially in the case of Leon Vilarin, who never thinks anything is good. For example, recently the fees were reduced for using the roads at night, thus relieving the traffic pressure on the highways during the day. The public applauded that, but you called it bad news for truckers. Why?

Answer: I called it bad news, and I proved it was so to Mr Torres, the minister of public works, in the first place because there is another kind of vehicle that uses the roads that was also excluded from paying the increase. I am not saying that the fees should be raised for everyone else, but I do not like the truckers to be discriminated against, because the respective decree sets two different tolls, one higher during the day and the other lower at night.

Question: I think that is sensational—that way the roads, which are now overcrowded, are faster-moving during the day for light vehicles, and at night they are open for the heavier and slower cargo traffic.

Answer: Of course, that is what the decree intends, but I told the minister frankly that the resolution was bad because unfortunately the Chilean roads are mostly paved with potholes which make night driving very dangerous.

Question: Nevertheless, for the last few weeks the country has been seeing a television advertisement in which truckers are shown saying that in fact they like driving on our roads because they are now completely repaired and in good shape.

Answer: Well, we must make a distinction in anything they do or say,

between truckers and those who have a chance of buying a truck. They have driving as a sideline, they do not have to be behind a wheel 16 or 18 hours a day, trying to find loads to provide a living for themselves and their families. Anyhow, that opinion in no way reflects that of the association, and by the way, I have a great deal of respect for those who take polls, but I know quite well how polls are manipulated, especially on television. I do not believe in those polls...

Labor Plan and Social Pressure

Question: During the meetings of this advisory committee, there were also criticisms by a majority of the truckers of the Labor Plan that the Ministry of Labor is pushing forward.

Answer: We truckers know the country's reality, we talk with people in various sectors--you see, in the course of a day a trucker may travel through four or five provinces--and we know that social pressure is growing every minute. Then we believe that it is our duty to warn the government, so that it can find some sort of safety valve to relieve this pressure, which could become dangerous.

Question: How strange...It was believed that the Labor Plan itself would be that safety valve, allowing workers to present their problems, achieve greater participation, and negotiate their social claims.

Answer: The Labor Plan--I have read all the recent labor legislation carefully--is unfortunately the most retrogressive in the last 50 years in this country.

Question: And you tell the government this?

Answer: Of course, because don't you see that Chile has a reputation for being an advanced country in labor legislation which in some ways set the standards for such legislation. In calling it advanced, I mean, of course, that it was good for both sides.

Question: It seems to be a somewhat interested criticism by you people...

Answer: Our only interest is to relieve social pressure, insomuch as we are able to get the president of the republic to hear these petitions, find them legitimate and fair, and/or find solutions or order his colleagues to find solutions as soon as possible.

Question: The position taken by you truckers puzzles me, because all of you here are businessmen. If--as has been stated here--the Labor Plan is good for businessmen, why fight it?

Answer: Of course you are correct from the point of view of social class. We ought to be content, thinking that thanks to this Labor Plan, the day

the drivers give us a list of petitions, we happily wait out the 60 days set by law and then...we already know what the future would be for the drivers. So I am glad you heard the criticisms of the Labor Plan that we made here. We, who used to be just drivers, we are not happy about the law that in some ways may favor us. We truck owners are concerned that this may harm our colleagues, because that contributes to increasing social pressure and threatens the nation's peace. Here, with a steamroller of official propaganda, they have tried to shape public opinion to the belief that the Labor Plan is the best one produced in Chile for many years, and that it is even good enough to be exported, for some countries have asked for the plan to study it...I don't know. It will be good for some countries, but it will not do for Chile. It is bad, it is the worst thing that has been legislated in the last 50 years. This means a complete social explosion in the entire Chilean working class and not just the truckers, much less just the truck owners.

Civilians with Complexes

Question: A colleague of yours on the board of directors recently said that the ones to blame for these problems, these disagreements, between the government and workers are some civilian advisors to the junta who, in his words, are newcomers and have a complex about the power the professional associations could have with the government...Do you share his opinion?

Answer: Yes, I do, for the most part, because unfortunately public administration has recently been filled with youths who I hope will gain experience about the treatment deserved by the Chileans who go to see them.

Question: You said that among these civilians there are those who cast a smoke screen around the president, not letting him know what is really going on in the country.

Answer: I will tell you frankly that, 3 years ago, I witnessed the reception the president received in Concepcion, and I understood his annoyance at the meager crowd. I understood it because he was to dedicate some projects that were very important for the region, but since he is not told what people think or want...Later in Iquique I also witnessed another reception for the president that was by no means a multitude...

Question: But what does this have to do with what the civilians do or do not tell him about what is actually happening in the country?

Answer: There has to be the people's response that I was speaking of. The president is a charismatic man who works 18 or 20 hours a day, who tries to listen to everyone and solve everyone's problems, and who is the only one--as opposed to many of his ministers who always has time to receive the leaders of the various professional associations. I cannot think that the armed forces group that accompanies him is what is hindering

the people's access to him. Quite the opposite: I know of the case of distinguished chiefs of the armed forces with whom we have been able to solve problems on which we have gotten nowhere working with civilians for years. I cite the case of General Badiola, for example. I am not a friend of his, but I think he is a man who is really helping the president and trying to keep him from being isolated from the people...That is my opinion.

Photo captions:

1. Leon Vilarin Marin, president of the Truck Owners Confederation, this weekend presided over a meeting of his professional association. He speaks in this interview about how his footing was shaken and how he defended himself.

2. "The truckers are on the brink of a blowup. Because of this they are protesting the Labor Plan, which is dividing the people of Chile. We have asked the president to modify Decree 2,757 for all of us to remain a single professional association, no matter whether it is a trade union or truckers' confederation."

8587

CSO: 3010

COLOMBIA

POLITICAL ANALYSIS OF CASTRO'S DECLINING REVOLUTION

Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 2 Feb 80 p 6

[Text] What has been the result of 20 years of communism? Some years ago, Castro seemed to have done the impossible by implanting communism in a Latin American country...Can the caudillo of the revolution now give himself the satisfaction of employing the same tactics that dazzled the islanders in his heyday?

Any Latin American caudillo who sent half of his regular army abroad, thus running the risk of having it annihilated, and who, furthermore, provided his troops just 21 rations of coffee..., 1 1/2 ounces of cooking oil and 1 bar of soap a month, would normally be branded as heedless in his bid to trigger an uprising. But this is not the case with communist caudillo Fidel Castro. For more than 2 years his country has waged two apparently unwinnable wars on another continent. In this venture he has utilized the same number of troops, proportionally, as the United States did in Vietnam, but he has also had four times as many losses proportionally. Castro assumed power promising to provide a better living standard for all, but today the country's economy is undergoing one of the worst crises in the history of the revolution, even though throughout these 20 years he has rationed foodstuffs for his people, whom poorhouses would not at all envy. Nevertheless, his staunchly anti-American policy, his boastful image of an iron-fisted leader with marked Leninist tendencies, have succeeded in keeping his fellow citizens under control by spreading bewilderment among them.

But last week there appeared some strange-looking shadows in the gloomy conformism that has characterized Cuban politics. In the first place, an incident took place that had not been seen in Havana since the early 1960's: anti-government posters and placards were found. Secondly, Mr Castro, adopting a far from usual attitude, refrained from applauding the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan until this week, when he disclosed his vote in the UN General Assembly. Thirdly, it was announced on 11 January that Mr Castro, who holds the posts of first secretary of the Cuban Communist Party and commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces, would now assume direct responsibility for the army and the ministries of the interior, culture and health.

Moreover, nine members of the cabinet, which had recently been overhauled, were fired.

This reorganization is not linked with evidence of a major challenge to Castro's power. It simply could have lent new facets to his policy, which is based on the slogan "Do it yourself." The Cuban leader certainly has good reason to be disappointed with the performance of one minister. After 1 year, industrial production was not up even one percent, which is far from the scheduled four percent. Since then, the government has been forced to cut its development goals in half. Economic profitability has left much to be desired, especially after a year in which the president employed new incentives in his bid to render prosperous an economy hamstrung by bureaucracy. Cuba would have succumbed had it not been for Soviet aid, which has meant more than \$4 billion in subsidies for the island and enabled it to sustain the wars in Africa.

But Dead Men Can Tell Tales

The uneasiness is obvious. Cuban youths now face the discouraging choice of having to endure attacks by mosquitoes and guerrillas in the jungles of Angola or in the burning sands of Ethiopia. Estimates are that about 45,000 troops are currently stationed in Africa; almost 9,000 soldiers will never be returning home. The Cuban mass media, silenced by the authorities, never show films that could disclose the hundreds of coffins unloaded by the various modes of military air transport. It can hardly go unnoticed, however, that 1 of every 300 men dies in the African wars. A large part of the soldiers serving in Africa are black. The government regards this as appropriate for furthering relations with the Africans and perhaps because they sympathize more with the cause of the Dark Continent. The problem is that Cuban blacks are idiosyncratically Antillean, not African. Also, most of the liberation movements against which they are fighting are black too. In contrast, the Cuban Government has very few black figures.

In addition, Soviet supervision is becoming increasingly obvious, not only in the intimidated capitalist middle class but also in the bureaucratic class. The Russian naval base at Cienfuegos, with its weapons and combat brigade, is as obvious to the Cubans as the U.S. show of force was in the past. The Castro regime's vice president, Mr Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, a veteran leader of the Cuban Communist Party, has been gradually getting rid of the guerrillas from the Sierra Maestra. The Cuban post-war experiment has shrunk to a Russian-style model of an orthodox government with a "carefully" selected committee.

A number of Cubans must have been shocked to see their president advancing arguments against President Tito of Yugoslavia at last September's summit conference of nonaligned nations, in a bid to uphold the movement's strictly nonaligned nature, logically without any intention whatsoever of using the rhetoric as a Soviet tool.

Others must have analyzed last week's rebuff by the Third World at the UN General Assembly (a stand that prevailed at the meeting), whereby open opposition was voiced to a potential leading role for Cuba on the Security Council, a role stemming from Castro's being president of the Movement of Nonaligned Countries. Cuban exiles, whom Castro boldly permitted to return to the island last year, have perhaps made their relatives aware that life in the Yankee empire is better than life under the Castro regime.

Mr Castro achieved almost the impossible by implanting a communist regime in a Latin American country. This was possible thanks to his strategy of exalting Leninist thought in opposition to nationalist Americanism and thanks to the magnetism of his irrepressibly populist personality. Nonetheless, his nationalist policy is losing strength, and his populist promise of bettering the lot of the average Cuban has not been fully kept.

The effectiveness of the usual methods of repression and training will gradually decline. Last year Castro relaxed the repression, but currently the first signs of dissidence have forced him to tighten up again. He has thus stationed police patrols and units in urban areas and has gone about conducting mass surveys and questionings to identify the pockets of dissent that have promoted protests and opposition. He has had enough time over these 20 years to imbue the Cuban press, the unions and politics with his ideology to a degree never dared by the most implacable right-wing Latin American dictators. Nonetheless, the individualism of the Latin American people has once again demonstrated its indomitable nature.

8743

CSO: 3010

COLOMBIA

PREELECTION BAN ON USE OF NEWS MEDIA EXPLAINED

PA201746 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 20 Feb 80 PA

[Text] Bogota--The airing of political conferences and speeches will be banned as of 5 March, a decree to be released in the next few hours states. Communications Minister Jose Manuel Arias Carrizosa reported on the content of the decree: [Begin recording] The executive decree that has just been passed says that the airing of speeches, conferences, roundtable discussions and other political activities will be banned from radio and television 5 days before election day and on election day itself, of course. It also notes that reports on vote returns can be based only on data issued by the civil registrar's office. As I have often stated, this is done to avoid the anarchy that marked the past two elections and avoid confusing the public which does not know what to believe because certain results are reported partially and arbitrarily. Therefore, both radio and television reports must be based on that office's data. That is basically what the decree says, in addition to containing public order provisions such as the ban on public demonstrations and liquor sales. In sum, the order is the type of thing we know accompanies electoral events.

[Question by unidentified persons] In other words, Mr Minister, any statement by a ticket member or spokesman will be banned 5 days before election day?

[Answer] That is correct. Only cut-and-dried political propaganda to vote for a ticket or candidate can be aired but the airing of recorded statements, speeches or roundtable discussions is banned. [End recording]

CSO: 3010

LOWER COST OF LIVING PREDICTED FOR 1980

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 28 Jan 80 Sec A p 16

[Text] The Bank of the Republic stated that the "quite favorable" results of the money management during 1979 should be reflected in "less inflationary pressure" during the coming months.

Rafael Gama Quijano, general manager of the Bank of the Republic, said that, as a result of the large increase in international reserves, which ended the year at \$4.114 billion, the economic policy had to be directed largely toward an attempt to minimize the expansionary effects which that increase has had lately on aggregate demand and prices which, in turn, were pressured by the wage factors and the higher costs of petroleum by-products.

Gama Quijano remarked: "The quite favorable results of the money management carried out in very close coordination with the exchange, credit and tax policies, should, therefore, be reflected in less inflationary pressure during the coming months."

He noted that the situation marked by increased income originating in the external sector began toward the end of 1975, and has continued uninterruptedly since then. Last year, international reserves increased by \$1.62 billion, despite the lower coffee prices on foreign markets.

Gama Quijano's statements are contained in the Journal of the Bank of the Republic for December 1979. Their main aspects are listed below:

1. During 1979, the growth in its medium of exchange declined to 24.3 percent, the lowest rate recorded during the past 5 years. In 1978, this figure was 30.3 percent; and, in 1977, 30.4 percent.
2. The reduced growth in the medium of exchange was achieved despite the fact that international reserves increased during the year by \$1.62 billion, a sum slightly less than the entire accumulated reserves for the 3-year period from 1976 to 1978. Of the issue of money caused by the increase in reserves, about 65 percent was frozen, avoiding the corresponding issue.

3. The increase in reserves would have been greater if several measures had not been adopted. For example, imports were stimulated by removing the restrictions on a large number of tariff items, and making a selective reduction in import duties; the bills for imports, which had been showing increasing lags, were accelerated; and the individual exchange permit was eliminated, to facilitate payments abroad for services. As a result, the payments for imports amounted to a total of \$2.5447 billion, as compared with \$2.110 billion in 1978; a figure which represents an increase of \$437 million during the year (21 percent).

4. The domestic credit of the Bank of the Republic contributed particularly to freezing part of the issue of money. Within this context, the operations of the government and the treasury reduced the base by nearly 17 percent. The financing from the various financing funds with money from domestic savings also made a considerable contribution to this effort, as in the case of the investment of agroindustrial securities amounting to 4.273 billion pesos.

5. The credit granted by the FAVI [Savings and Housing Fund ?] to the savings and housing corporations totaled only 2.813 billion pesos, as compared with 8.470 billion at the end of 1978. This reduction was achieved thanks to the reorganization of the lines of credit based on a reduction in deposits, the change in the dates for computing interest and the adjustments made in the interest rates on the UPAC [Savings Certificates with Constant Purchasing Power]. Although the reduction in cash reserves was greater than during previous periods, the net monetary effect was considerably less than in 1978.

6. The operations of the Bank of the Republic on the market for contraction purposes had an additional effect on the monetary base amounting to nearly 22 billion pesos. The placement on the market of stock certificates amounting to 7 billion pesos, in other words, 5.4 percent of the base; the increases attained in deposits from imports and turnover amounting to 3.916 billion pesos; and the system of exchange certificates, the balance of which in the hands of the public totaled 12.166 billion pesos may be regarded as key aspects of the monetary policy, particularly during the last half of the year.

7. The secondary creation of money was restricted during the year, with continuance of the measures designed to prevent its growth, particularly in the case of marginal reserves. For example, the multiplier of the monetary base was reduced from 1.332 in December 1978 to 1.270 at the end of 1979. This decline originated mainly from the increase in bank reserves caused by the aforementioned cash reserves.

8. The deposits with a high degree of liquidity maintained in the institutional financial system, in other words, the quasi-money deposits, reached a balance of 112.609 billion pesos at the end of December, representing an

increase of 27.770 billion (33 percent) for the year. During the last quarter, there was an increase of 752 million pesos in this category, a rise in contrast to the decline shown during the same period in 1978, amounting to 5.213 billion pesos. This result is an indication that the mechanism of open market operations actually succeeded in draining the increased liquidity which occurred during the final months of the year, without impairing the status of the funds in the institutional financial system.

9. The loans in the banking system show a balance of 136.187 billion pesos at the end of December. During the year, their increment was 19.820 billion (17 percent). The amount of the aforementioned loans includes 49.228 billion pesos financed through special lines of credit from the Bank of the Republic and from the financing funds. In the area of development, the increase in the funds channeled through PROEXPO [Export Promotion Fund], the FFAP [expansion unknown] (4.269 billion pesos) and the FFI [Industrial Promotion Fund ?] (632 million pesos) is noteworthy.

10. The quite favorable results of the money management carried out in very close coordination with the exchange, credit and tax policies, should, therefore, be reflected in less inflationary pressure during the coming months.

2909

CSO: 3010

NAVAL BASE PLANNED FOR SAN ANDRES ISLAND

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 2 Feb 80 Sec B p 6

[Text] San Andres, 1 February (from special correspondent Fernan Martinez M.)--Upon being questioned about the current situation in San Andres, the minister of defense, Gen Luis Carlos Camacho Leyva, stated: "We are in a defensive position, but if the circumstances so require, we can make it offensive."

The minister spoke during his trip to the San Andres islands, during which, accompanied by the FAC [Colombian Armed Forces] commander, Gen Raul Paredes, Adm Guidberto Barona of the Navy, Gen Fernando Landazabal Reyes and other high-ranking officers, he was preparing to visit the installations where the new San Andres naval base and the school of oceanography may possibly be established.

Camacho Leyva also denied rumors concerning the appointment of a military superintendent in this part of the country.

During the brief visit made by the high-ranking military commanders, which did not exceed 10 hours, a private meeting was held with the commanders of the National Navy who were recently detailed here since what has, to date, been a verbal conflict with Nicaragua.

It was also learned that the combat planes and tugboats will continue their patrolling until Colombia's sovereignty over that vast region, consisting of about 28,000 kilometers of ocean, is made clear for once and for all.

The cost of the plan for the new military base is nearly 10 million pesos, because all that it would involve is the adaptation of the large storage facilities of the coconut oil factory which have been abandoned for years. Cove Bay, the site of the new naval installations, offers maximum guarantees for security and strategy, and facilities for the mooring of medium draft vessels. The existing naval station cannot accommodate them. The ground forces that have been sent are billeted in a public school, and it has not yet been determined where they are going to be sent next Monday, when the instructional work is resumed.

2909
CSO: 3010



New Naval Base for San Andres: The new San Andres naval base and the school of oceanography will be located in this bay, known as Cove. The defense minister and the commander of the National Navy, together with other high-ranking officers, are visiting the region. This is the first of a series of projects carried out by the national government on behalf of the archipelago.

COLOMBIA

IDB LOAN FOR HYDROELECTRIC PLANT OFFERED

Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 29 Jan 80 p 1

[Text] Yesterday, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) announced its willingness to lend Colombia \$600 million, approximately 25 billion pesos, to partially finance the Guavio hydroelectric powerplant in the department of Cundinamarca.

The offer of credit was made by the executive director of the IDB for Colombia and Peru, Luis Prieto Ocampo, who is a member of a mission from the international agency that is visiting the country.

The Guavio hydroelectric complex will cost a total of \$900 million, or about 36 billion pesos, and is part of the long-term projects that the government is planning to achieve self-sufficiency in energy.

The mission, which is headed by the vice-president of the Inter-American Development Bank, Reuben Sternfeld, and his assistant, Joel Riley, is analyzing with Colombian officials the various possibilities for financing in strategic sectors of the Colombian economy. The mission approved the National Integration Plan which the government will carry out over the next 3 years, and which will cost \$14 billion, of which sum \$6 billion is an external component, obtained at the last meeting of the Consulting Group in Paris.

2909

CSO: 3010

FERTILIZER PLANT PLANNED BY ECOMINAS

Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 2 Feb 80 p 12

[Text] Colombia is planning to build a large plant to produce fertilizer made from phosphoric rock, which will enable it to substitute for imports of agricultural input amounting to 60,000 tons per year.

The project will be carried out by the Colombian Mining Enterprise [ECOMINAS], whose manager, Pedro Pablo Morcillo, stated that, in this way, an attempt will be made for the suitable use of the phosphoric rock deposits that have been discovered in Boyaca, Santander, Los Llanos and other areas.

He said that this government is striving to leave an established infrastructure which will make it possible to set up a large plant for phosphated fertilizers the capacity of which will exceed 100,000 tons; allowing for a domestic supply as well as surpluses for export.

He remarked that, with the construction of the plant that has been designed in the country, foreign exchange totaling approximately \$70 million will be saved.

At the present time, the domestic requirements for phosphated fertilizers demanded on the internal market total 60,000 tons per year.

Feasibility Studies

In commenting on the status of the phosphate feasibility studies, he said that they are progressing satisfactorily; after noting that all the technical requirements demanded with regard to both fishing and sardine production are being met.

2909

CSO: 3010

COLOMBIA

BRIEFS

TURBAY'S FOREIGN POLICY SUPPORTED--Bogota, 14 Feb (EFE)--The Colombian foreign relations committee today announced its support of the international attitude of President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala, especially regarding Nicaragua's refusal to recognize the validity of treaties signed several decades ago. The commission headed by former president Misael Pastrana Borrero and Alfonso Lopez Michelsen, said in a document, without mentioning Nicaragua specifically, that the government acted correctly in reasserting its adherence to the principle of inviolability of treaties and respect for the rights established by them. Some days ago, the Nicaraguan revolutionary government announced that it rejects the validity of the treaties dealing with the Colombian nationality of the San Andres and Providencia Archipelago and the Roncador, Quitasueno, Serrana and Serranita Cays. Colombia immediately recalled its ambassador to Nicaragua for consultations and relations between the two nations have deteriorated noticeably. [Text] [PA151439 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2337 GMT 14 Feb 80 PA]

SECRET DOCUMENTS ALLEGED STOLEN--Bogota--There is great uncertainty in diplomatic and military circles in Colombia in the wake of the disappearance of secret documents in connection with a maritime conflict between this country and Nicaragua. According to the local media, the documents were stolen a few days ago in Bogota from the residence of a high-ranking officer of the armed forces. Their contents are unknown since they are considered secret. Colombia's Cadena Radial Super said in a report monitored here that the documents deal with military operations in the Caribbean Sea on islands and cays over which Nicaragua is claiming sovereignty. [Text] [PA202006 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 20 Feb 80 PA]

CSO: 3010

ARIAS: CARAZO DISTRUSTS PARLIAMENTARY SYSTEM

San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 23 Jan 80 p 8A

[Text] Representative Oscar Arias Sanchez (member for Heredia) declared before the plenary of the Legislative Assembly that President Rodrigo Carazo Odio mistrusts the parliamentary system, fearing it and therefore not believing in the virtues of a representative democracy.

Arias, who is secretary-general of the National Liberation Party (PLN) criticized the president for having withdrawn all the bills submitted to the assembly, up to the week before last, in order to prevent the communist representatives from taking the floor on the subject of the banana strike.

Arias recalled that in May of last year he had stated in the plenary that "We are facing a government that is afraid of parliament because it does not believe that it is in this plenary that, by popular mandate, we should seek an accommodation, a compromise, a search for a consensus, the progress of our country."

He added that these were not necessarily to be regarded as prophetic phrases, "though I must admit that they were, in view of the reason set forth by the president of the republic only a week ago for not convening an extraordinary session. It was a reason put forward by someone who does not believe in the parliamentary system, mistrusts it and fears it," he said.

Arias noted that if the country is to pursue the logic that Carazo now proposes, "we would have to conclude that each time there is a strike, each time there is a worker-employer conflict, a foreign threat, the best solution would be to close down the parliament."

He indicated that the assembly encompasses the various sectors of public opinion in a society. "It would, therefore, seem logical to listen to these various trends of thought which are reflected in the assembly.

And he asked if the purpose was to silence the representatives to the Legislative Assembly, why not also silence the press, close down the periodicals, the radio reviews and the daily TV newscasts?

"There can be no doubt that we are facing a government which says one thing but thinks another. As was said during the campaign, now they are not only sufficiently two-faced to say one thing and do another, their lack of sincerity goes further. They talk of Costa Rican democracy, of the need to strengthen the very base of democracy, and yet, fearlessly, they tell the Costa Rican people that parliament is not to be in session because they do not want to representatives who do not think along the same lines as the government to have an opportunity to express their opinion on the handling of the recent banana conflict," stressed Arias Sanchez.

7129

CSO: 3010

UNITY COALITION SCORES ARIAS FOR ATTACK ON PRESIDENT

San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 24 Jan 80 p 3

[Text] Representatives of the Unidad [Unity] coalition yesterday made a surprise attack in legislative circles, starting with a series of violent criticisms against the secretary-general of the National Liberation Party [PLN], Representative Oscar Arias Sanchez.

The attack sprang from the charges which Arias Sanchez had made previously against President Carazo in connection with the withdrawal of bills submitted to Congress and the ban on congressional sessions, as from 15 March, the date set for the new term.

He accused the president of being a bad democrat for preventing the meeting of Congress, solely to avoid opposition criticism of the manner in which he was handling the banana conflict.

Representative Robert Rojas Araya (Unidad) accused Arias and Representative Alvaro Jenkins of being "ghost" members in view of their frequent absence from the assembly's sessions, and added that when they did appear it was to engage in politicking.

He noted that if Arias, who considers himself presidential timber, achieved his goal, there would be sad hours in store both for the PLN and the country.

Representative Gerardo Bolanos Alpizar, also of Unidad, referred to a series of blunders committed by Arias Sanchez during the 8 years in which he headed the Office of Planning (with the rank of minister). In his opinion, these went from the formulation of programs to grave irregularities in administrative and financial matters.

Bolanos displayed a report from the Comptroller's Office in which, apparently, irregularities were indicated in the reimbursement of overtime, cash receipts, and other things of a similar nature.

These were the charges which seemed to make the PLN cup overflow, the last drop, so to speak.

Making use of a pause allowed by Representative Hubert Rojas, PLN Representative Mario Espinoza Sanchez warned Unidad that it is attempting to start a political row in the Congress.

He declared that "We are ready and willing to join the fight, but we hope that afterward, you will not blame us for the delay in getting bills through the assembly.

7129

CSO: 3010

ACTIVITIES OF SALVADORAN GUERRILLA GROUPS REPORTED

ASN Investigation

San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 31 Jan 80 p 12A

[Text] The possibility that Salvadoran guerrillas are being trained in the northern region of the country is being investigated by the National Security Agency (ASN), according to the deputy of that organization, Col Johnny Chaverri Samudio.

Col Fernando Munoz, chief of the Public Force, said on this subject, "I am simply concerned about whether such a situation could be true."

Munoz said that he could neither deny nor confirm reports which have surfaced in this regard, as nothing has been proved up to now.

He gave assurances that he will discuss this matter with the minister of public security, Juan Jose Echeverria, and will consider his opinion, to determine the need for an inspection operation.

Investigation

Colonel Chaverri said that for the last 22 days investigations have been made of reports about the alleged existence of training camps for Salvadoran guerrillas on Guanacaste farms such as El Pelon, El Hacha, Orosi, Alemania and Los Inocentes.

Reportedly these places are similar to those maintained by Sandinist guerrillas in the border region during the armed struggle which culminated in the overthrow of Gen Anastasio Somoza.

Chaverria said that nothing unusual was discovered in the above-mentioned places. Instead there were reports to the effect that the armed men seen in the region could be former Somoza guards who were trapped inside Nicaragua at the time of the Sandinist victory and fled to our country.

According to different reports, these individuals allegedly cross the border and engage in actions against Sandinist military posts.

Colonel Chaverri said that several patrols had been sent into that region, without the discovery of anything irregular up to now.

At the same time, there is rigorous control at the border post of Penas Blancas in consideration of the possibility that arms are being transported into our country.

Los Chiles

According to another account in the hands of the police, Salvadoran guerrillas are also possibly present in the Los Chiles region, adjacent to San Carlos, Nicaragua.

Investigations have also been conducted in this region; but, as of yesterday, the authorities have been unable to prove anything. According to Chaverri, if groups of guerrillas such as those described are discovered, they will be arrested immediately and expelled from the country.

He also said that arms shipments for guerrilla movements attempting to use our territory have not been uncovered.

Guerrilla Camps Reported

San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 31 Jan 80 p 8

[Article by Arturo Sanchez]

[Text] The existence of Salvadoran guerrilla camps in the country, connected with intensive international arms movements and a domestic "crescendo" in the clandestine sale of war materials, was reported yesterday by various persons in Guanacaste.

According to these reports, which were acknowledged by the government of the republic at 1700 hours yesterday, some of the camps may be located on El Pelon, El Hacha and Los Inocentes and others in the southern region of the country.

In an unofficial report, it was said that these camps "were set up on the same old structures" of the Sandinist guerrilla camps which the government of Costa Rica tolerated in the struggle against genocidist Anastasio Somoza in Guanacaste province.

The same unofficial report states that "arms for training have been moved across the Nicaraguan border from military centers of the Sandinist Liberation Army in Rivas and Managua and that arms traffickers in San Jose have provided them with the rest."

The President Speaks

The president of the republic, Rodrigo Carazo Odio, said last night, "As a matter of fact, there are rumors about Salvadoran guerrilla camps in Costa Rica.

"All these rumors are being thoroughly investigated, however, up to now, there has been absolutely no proof on this matter.

"I call upon Costa Ricans, all Costa Ricans, when they have evidence that such camps exist and know of their location to report to the government through proper channels so that appropriate action can be taken immediately."

Vice President to El Salvador

The rumor to the effect that one of the Costa Rican vice presidents would go to El Salvador to explain the situation created by the report of these camps became a reality this morning; however, an official bulletin issued by the Press Office of the Presidential House did not clarify the reason for the trip and merely stated:

"Today, 31 January, the second vice president of the republic, Jose Miguel Alfaro, and the minister of the presidency, Jorge Poveda, left the country on a special flight to El Salvador. The two authorities, who are on an official mission, will return to San Jose today, possibly during the evening hours.

"The purpose of the public officials' visit is to talk with members of the Government Junta of the sister country. The subject of the talks has not been revealed."

Camps

The director of the Public Force, Col Fernando Munoz Marin, said, "I can neither deny nor affirm the presence of guerrillas in camps which have their base in Guancaste.

"I have to meet with Minister Echeverria to examine the situation. If the press report is confirmed, it is possible that a cleanup operation will be planned."

Munoz indicated that he would first need to have correct information about the presence of guerrillas in that region to mobilize a contingent of the Civil Guard.

Another Statement

Maj Julio Borbon Munoz, commander of the Liberia Command, said in this regard:

"In the last few days, we have had reports about the presence of foreign persons in the north. We have been told that foreign persons are mobilizing

in that sector; however, when we made a sweep through the area, we found absolutely nothing."

However, he pointed out, "On one or two occasions, there were traces of rudimentary camps north of Los Inocentes, near Verdun.

"Up to now, we have been unable to find out anything about their nationalities. All we found were empty cans, ashes and rocks. We determined that there was little movement of persons."

Borbon said that during talks with other commanders there was support for the possibility that what was involved was former members of Anastasio Somoza's National Guard who were regrouping at the border.

He said: "That was the impression we had; however, with regard to nationalities, we do not know anything."

8143

CSC: 3010

FUCODES ELECTS NEW LEADERSHIP, SETS POLICY

San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 23 Jan 80 p 3

[Text] The general assembly of the Costa Rican Development Foundation (FUCODES) recently elected its new leadership, and chose Fernando Herrera Mora as its chairman.

The vice chairman is to be Guillermo Porras Arguedas, and James Gerchou Moya will occupy the position of secretary.

The other members of the Board of Directors are: Rodolfo Fuentes, deputy secretary; Jaime Morales, treasurer; Silvestre Alonso, Manuel Rojas, Juan Echeverria, Alvaro Siles, the Rev Armando Alfaro and Jose Manuel Araya as members of the board.

The new FUCODES directors declared that the private sector extends a welcome to those who believe in self-government through this foundation which provides directives for groups who have no faith in free gifts. Moreover, it opens up new horizons for a better life, concentrating on work, honesty and a good example for future generations.

7129

CSO: 3010

COSTA RICA

BRIEFS

100 FOREIGNERS DEPORTED--San Jose, 26 Feb (ACAN-EFE)--More than 100 foreigners have been deported by the Costa Rican immigration office this year, official spokesmen reported today. Most of the action has been against Central Americans who were in this country illegally. Fifteen undocumented foreigners will be taken to Penas Blancas (Nicaraguan border) tomorrow. Several of them have been booked as agitators. There are 12 Salvadorans and 3 Nicaraguans. Of the former, eight have been charged with encouraging strikes in Costa Rica and the others were in Costa Rica illegally and were charged with having assaulted immigration authorities, the sources added. [Text] [PA270435 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0147 GMT 27 Feb 80 PA]

CSO: 3010

INTERNAL ORDER, POPULATION CONTROL MEASURES ANNOUNCED

Public Warned About Violations

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 8 Jan 80 p 2

[Article by Alexis Shelton]

[Text] A meeting was held yesterday at the headquarters of the party Provincial Committee to work out details for implementing Decree Law No 27 in Havana, penalizing anyone who commits a crime against public order, general security, public display, health and property.

Julio Camacho Aguilera, member of the Central Committee's secretariat and the party's first secretary in Havana; Faustino Perez, head of the Local People's Government Department of the Council of Ministers; Oscar Fernandez Mell, chairman of the Provincial Assembly of the People's Power; and Minister of Justice Armando Torres Santrayll presided over a meeting convoking executive leaders and officials of political and peoples' organizations, state administration and other entities involved in the implementation of the legislative instrument in question.

According to information received, violations against the decree law's objectives will be potentially subject to fines varying from 5 to 40 pesos in some cases and 10 to 50 in others according to the nature and seriousness of the infraction.

In a series of articles, the law establishes that a violation of public order will be incurred by anyone who disturbs the methodical arrangement, even though only slightly so, of public spectacles, social circles, festivals or meetings with large attendance, collective-transportation vehicles, commercial establishments, public offices or other places involving groups of people.

In like manner, fines will be imposed on those who, through family squabbles, behave in a scandalous manner, disturbing the public order, even though only slightly, and those who hold parties in their homes outside the time set aside for such celebrations unless permission is received from the proper authorities.

Other sanctions will be imposed on those who cross through gardens, cultivated fields or verdant areas without taking necessary precautions to avoid damaging or destroying them, although this act will not be considered a crime and the action of the party involved is subject only to payment for any damage incurred.

Furthermore, fines of 5 to 40 pesos will be imposed on those involved in damaging public transportation equipment or simply acting contrary to the provisions of normal care and preservation of that equipment.

Fines will also be imposed on nonauthorized individuals or organizations which perform any kind of tree pruning in public city areas.

Other prohibitions and regulations contained in the law, whose violators will be fined without recourse, are described in the following paragraphs:

Carrying out construction projects in one's own home without proper permit; extracting debris and depositing construction materials, closing off rooms, and painting sidewalks, curbs and causeways unless within traffic norms and unless the work is performed by individuals designated for these types of work.

Littering planted areas with debris or construction materials, trash or containers holding such materials, residue or metal scrap of any kind, equipment or parts of equipment and, in general, any type of object or substance which might affect the appearance or preservation of ornamental vegetation.

The Directorate of Aqueducts, Sewage and Storm Drainage will be responsible for any maintenance required to eliminate storm-sewer stoppage or obstructions in public thoroughfares as quickly as possible, being obliged to use the product of the cleaning services in the sewage systems immediately after completing the maintenance work.

Sanctions will also be imposed for the use of parks, squares, avenues and other public areas for placing installations or objects, permanent or temporary, intended for business purposes, services, propaganda and the like or for carrying out activities without the written authorization of the People's Power department directly responsible for watching over such activities.

It is strictly forbidden and sanctions will be imposed on any individuals who place rubbish and waste materials in containers without taking precautions to prevent those materials from spilling at time of garbage pickup, or who damage such containers in any way; this applies to both the garbage collectors and those using the services.

Individuals will also be reported who litter public places with trash such as paper, wrappings, cigarette or cigar butts and the like, whether

just passing through or residing in the area, or from parked or moving vehicles. In like manner, it is forbidden to sweep from the interior of residential dwellings or state buildings to a public thoroughfare.

Sanctions will also be imposed on those who drive loaded vehicles and other equipment without taking adequate steps to prevent their contents from spilling out or being scattered onto a public thoroughfare or the vehicle's wheels from throwing mud or stones onto the pavement.

Moreover, sanctions will be imposed on those who soil statues, sculptures or bulletin boards and damage seats, benches and other installations in avenues, parks and other public places. This also includes those who write signs, put up posters and in any way defile or alter bus stations, public telephone booths, fountains, trolley cars, newsstands, railings, fences protecting planted areas and other items of city property as well as the exterior walls of any building.

A health infraction will be incurred and sanctions imposed on those who fail to meet the legal requirements relative to the discarding of trash in a public thoroughfare, gardens, uncultivated areas and patios. It is forbidden to paint exteriors without proper authority granted by the Directorate of Architecture and Urban Development.

Sanctions will also be imposed on those persons, organizations and groups which fail, within a period not to exceed 7 days, to remove decorations or posters put up in public places to celebrate national or local festivals and commemorations. It is understood that the 7-day period will remain firm and will begin after the completion of the festival involving the temporary decoration.

Among other provisions, the law prohibits hanging clothes on balconies, terraces and main facades, in exterior gardens and uncultivated areas where they may be plainly visible from a public thoroughfare unless, in special instances, there is no alternative.

It has likewise been forbidden by the legislative document to place or keep any item of permanent or temporary nature which might obstruct pedestrian or vehicular traffic, interfere with the visibility of the drivers of the latter or limit adequate viewing of scenery, sculptures, architectural or urban sights of value, or any other desirable sight.

Among the procedures for implementing the law, it is established that, upon proof of an infraction, members of the National Revolutionary Police and inspectors of administrative directorates will advise those involved through a proper form consisting of an original for the administrative directorate and a detachable copy for the violator.

According to information given, the offices of Control of Administrative Infractions will see that the fines imposed are paid within the designated time; if payment is not made within the first 15 days, the amount is doubled; if 30 days go by without payment, the amount is tripled. If 60 days go by without payment, wages are stopped in the case of a private individual and appropriate judicial proceedings are initiated in the case of organizations and state agencies.

In speaking at the meeting, Aguilera emphasized that one of the fundamental objectives of the members of the Committee for Public Display, Hygiene and Traffic is to keep Havana clean every day. "It is necessary," he said, "to continue to make an effort and carry out the means to achieve this objective in an efficient and stable manner."

Military Identity Card Issuance

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 9 Jan 80 p 3

[Article by Marta Jimenez Almira]

[Text] Preparation and issuance of a military identity card, an important document for updating military registration, will be increased this year by being distributed to all reservists assigned to wartime military units, according to information given GRANMA by Lt Col Julio Rego Lopez of the leadership of the Directorate for Organization and Mobilization of the General Staff.

The military identity card is the main link in the military registration system, made effective by Decree No 34 issued by the Executive Committee of the Council of Ministers.

This document, which has proved to be essential in improving military registration in areas in which it has been used (Military Directorate of the Municipal People's Government, Work and Study Centers), serves to identify sergeants, soldiers and sailors while fulfilling their active military service as established by law and as military identification for other citizens of reserve status; in addition to general information of a personal nature, the identity card will contain the individual's complete history as an active or reserve serviceman.

According to information given the press, priority is currently being given to issuance of the identity card to youths of prerecruitment age upon their entrance into active military life. The document will also be received gradually by officers and personnel of the reenlistment service, graduates of active military service at time of enrollment in military registration, women found to have special technical or professional training and all reservists on the rosters of the Military Directorates of the Municipal People's Government.

It is essential that citizens of military age, upon being called, respect the day and hour given in the summons, bringing with them an up-to-date identity card, proof of enrollment in general military service, a photograph measuring 4 by 5 centimeters, an accredited identity card in the case of party militants, members of the UJC[Union of Young Communists] or party aspirants; they should also bring any certificates of decorations or distinctions received. It is of vital importance that these requirements be met as the preparation and issuance of the identity card are being carried out in a well-organized manner and require extreme promptness by those called.

Another aspect which must be taken into consideration is the presentation of the identity card (when issued) at the individual's work or study center so that the head of that activity may be up-to-date relative to military registration and know which personnel can, at a given moment, be mobilized for the FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces].

In like manner, the presentation of an up-to-date military identity card is one of the main requirements for obtaining the regular identity card which is required in changing one's residence, enrolling in a work center and registering at a study center, among other procedures.

To carry out this extensive task, an annual program was drawn up by the military committees to prepare and issue the document, adapting it to the realities of each province in order to issue the military identity card with all information properly recorded and with the required quality.

Work groups, specially trained and responsible for holding the personal interviews and issuing the card, are doing an efficient job, particularly in the provinces of Pinar del Rio, Villa Clara and Sancti Spiritus.

Worthy of special mention is the support being given by political and peoples' organizations as well as by departments of the Central State Administration and People's Government in this task which will help even more to increase the combative readiness of our Revolutionary Armed Forces.

Internal Order Law Reminder

Havana TRABAJADORES in Spanish 10 Jan 80 p 1

[Article by Renato Recio]

[Text] It is worth stating that Decree Law No 27, which recently became effective, is not limited to repressive measures or financial penalties. The intention is to make it a matter of education so that, in time, there will be increasingly less need for a system of sanctions.

The infraction does not involve criminal conduct per se but nearly always reflects antisocial habits and lack of education.

Who does not know someone inclined to change the internal order, an individual capable of "throwing cold water" on the situation at a given moment because he ignores the rights of others?

To avoid bad examples and disturbances caused by that type of conduct, we have Article 18 of Decree Law No 27 dealing with violators of internal order on whom fines of 5 to 40 pesos are to be imposed.

Let us examine a few situations in which internal order is changed to a slight degree, without being of a criminal nature, but sufficient to warrant fines of varying amounts:

1. At public performances. In this case, it must be considered that the seriousness of the violation increases if it is an open-air performance, if it is in an enclosure, if many children are participating, or if it is an international event.
2. At social clubs. Slight changes in internal order in social clubs merit various fines within the range given, depending on whether the infraction occurs during or outside the beach season. Likewise, trying to enter the club or remain in it without authorization is an infraction which deserves a fine.
3. At festivals or meetings. At times, family celebrations, celebrations at work centers and public dances may be subjected to slight changes in internal order. In these instances, the parents or guardians are responsible for any infractions their minor children under their guardianship may commit.
4. In public transportation vehicles. In these cases, the seriousness of the infraction increases to the extent that it is committed in a bus, on a boat or in an aircraft, as the results of such a change are unquestionably different for each of the three modes of transportation.

Article 18 of Decree Law No 27 also deals with changes in commercial establishments, offices and other places where groups of people assemble. It provides fines for those who, in family squabbles or arguments with neighbors, behave in a scandalous manner or cause disturbances and sanctions those who hold parties at their residence outside the hours permitted for such parties without receiving permission from the proper authority.

Workers Identity Cards

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 11 Jan 80 p 2

[Text] Havana--(AIN)--The State Committee for Labor and Social Security [CETSS] is reminding all administrative directors of organizations, institutions, companies and other entities that, in accordance with Law 1234/71, no citizens may be admitted into work centers without an up-to-date identity card.

Any violation in this regard will be penalized in accordance with Article 11 of the aforementioned law, which was changed by Law 1278/74, stipulating that a fine of up to 10 pesos will be imposed administratively on those who accept citizens in their center without presentation of the identity card.

Mention is also being made of Resolution No 2 of 1978, subscribed to by the CETSS and the Ministry of Interior, which establishes that the administrations of agencies, firms, organizations or institutions are obliged to update the employment history of their employees on the identity card in a methodical manner.

They must also require that a worker who has lost his identity card present a new identity card within 48 hours of the loss or a temporary document of identification issued by the municipal branch of the CIR [Municipal Identity Card and Registration Office] nearest his place of residence.

Identity Card May Not Be Demanded as a Deposit or Guarantee

The Directorate of the Identity Card and Population Registry of the Ministry of Interior is reminding all citizenry and especially the administrators of night recreation centers that, in accordance with Article 26 of the Regulation on Identity Cards and Directorate Registration made effective through the Ministry of Interior's Resolution No 18 in 1974, it is strictly forbidden to demand or give an identity card as a deposit or guarantee.

Any violation of the preceding will be subject to penalty in accordance with Article 11 of Law 1234/71, modified by Law 1278 in 1974, which established the system of the Identity Card and Population Registry.

Seamen's Identity Cards

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 11 Jan 80 p 3

[Text] Havana--(AIN)--The CETSS published Resolution 394 of December 1979 making it mandatory for the crews of merchant and fishing vessels to have a proper seaman's identity card or official passport designed especially for such personnel.

The resolution states that this decision is in keeping with the need to organize in an adequate manner the labor force involved in maritime activities so as to assure efficient use of the resources of the fleets and maritime companies.

Lack of compliance with this requirement will result in loss of employment and replacement by other workers with full legal rights.

The document also provides that vacancies will not result in elimination of jobs, in accordance with current labor legislation.

Companies will fill vacancies with dock workers or workers from other centers so long as they obey the requirement of seniority rights, except in the case of ship's officers where the company is free to make a separate contract.

Alien Identity Cards

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 17 Jan 80 p 3

[Article by Jose Gabriel Guma]

[Text] Only 2 weeks remain until 31 January, the final date granted foreigners and noncitizens who reside permanently in Cuban territory and who must bring their identity cards up-to-date to appear at the provincial offices of the Directorate of Immigration and Alien Registration [DIE].

The deferment was granted by the DIE so that those who must update and renew their identity documents might find it easier to do so.

This involves cases in which it is necessary to update the identity card due to loss, deterioration, change of residence, termination of one's stay in the country, errors or other causes.

Persons who find themselves in that situation and who reside either in the City of Havana Province or in Havana itself must appear before the end of the month at the DIE offices located at Tercera and 22 St, Miramar, Municipal Plaza. The matter may be handled during normal work hours, from 0800 hours until 1200 hours and from 1300 hours to 1700 hours.

Residents in the remaining areas of the country must come to the offices of the DIE located in the provincial capitals.

Those who do not fulfill this obligation are subject to fine in accordance with Article 14 of Law 1313 dealing with alien registration.

"The Ministry of Interior may impose fines of an administrative nature up to 100 pesos to those who do not comply with this law and its provisions without interfering with provisions relative to deportation," the law states.

It should also be pointed out that Article 29 of Law 1313 provides that the holders of identity cards or, in certain circumstances, the persons or entities responsible for the stay of foreigners or noncitizens in Cuba are obliged to notify the DIE of any loss or misplacement of the identity documents.

In its first article, Law 1313 establishes that "within the purposes of this law foreigners are those who are not Cuban citizens and who claim to be citizens of another country through a valid passport or equivalent document issued in their name."

Article 2 also specifies that "within the purposes of this law, those who are not Cuban citizens and who cannot prove citizenship in another country are not considered to hold citizenship."

Police Efficiency Upgrading

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 18 Jan 80 p 3

[Article by Alexis Shelton]

[Text] With the aim of intensifying the process, already initiated, of strengthening the various forces in our capital, especially the National Revolutionary Police, a meeting was held yesterday attended by the heads and officers of the Ministry of Interior and the leaders of the party and People's Government of all the municipalities of the province.

The need to upgrade the efficiency of our police organizations for a more effective fight against crime was the principal objective of the meeting during which a report was given of criminal activity in our country in recent years, particularly in the capital.

Julio Camacho Aguilera, member of the Central Committee's secretariat and first secretary of the party in Havana; Oscar Fernandez Mell, chairman of the Provincial Assembly of the People's Power, and Brig Gen Enio Leyva, vice minister of MININT [Ministry of Interior], presided over the meeting which served also to elaborate the details of the program of upgrading which will be initiated.

General Leyva advised that, according to statistics, our capital has the highest crime rate in the country and that, although we can see an appreciable decrease in various antisocial manifestations of a criminal nature, we must nevertheless be on the offensive and continue to upgrade our protective mechanisms on the one hand and, on the other, make the repressive and educational apparatus stronger and more efficient.

"Crime against property, especially armed robbery," he said, "is a serious problem which we must reduce to a minimum; that is why we must strengthen our ranks and upgrade the use of our investigative methods for strict control of negative individuals who, in fact, become enemies of the society we are building." He also emphasized the importance of combating crime against the economy.

In another part of his speech, Leyva pointed out that as a result of the systematic work carried out, traffic accidents have shown a remarkable decline during the past year; in Havana there were 2,200 fewer accidents than in 1978. "However," he added, "negligence by pedestrians continues to be a repeated cause of traffic accidents in recent years."

He then said that, simultaneously with the upgrading of the National Revolutionary Police, there will be a strengthening of the fire-prevention and fire-fighting units and of the work done in penal centers and institutions.

In concluding the meeting, Aguilera emphasized that, to do its job well, the police must have sufficient authority; otherwise, it will in no way receive the respect owed it by the very people it is obliged to protect.

He said that, simultaneously with repressive measures for the control and elimination of crime, educational steps must also be taken to produce good habits and customs which are socially sound.

Referring to another area of the MININT's work, he stated that in each project conceived for the growth or improvement of the city's structures, hydraulic installations are always included involving a system of fire hydrants to put out fires.

CDR Address Registration Compulsory

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 18 Jan 80 p 4

[Text] Havana--(AIN)--The Directorate of the Identity Card and Population Registry of the Ministry of Interior is reiterating that, in accordance with Law 1234/71 as modified by Law 1278/74 and Resolution 18/71 issued by the Ministry of Interior, it has put into effect regulations pertaining to a system of identity cards and address registration; all citizens are obliged to sign the address register where they reside, even if only temporary (from 30 to 90 days) or permanently (90 days or more).

It is also to be remembered that Article 15 of that regulation stipulates that those responsible for the address registry of the CDR [Committee for Defense of the Revolution] are obliged to advise the proper authorities of the address in their jurisdiction of persons who are remaining without signing the address registry, who do not have an identity card or a minor's identification.

In this connection it is understood that the address registry is to include:

--all citizens who have an identity card;

--mental incompetents who, although excused from having an identity card, appear on the identity card of the father, mother, guardian or other person responsible for them;

--active members of the Revolutionary Armed Forces who reside outside the territory in which their military units are located;

--all citizens who possess a minor's card, whose name will be registered by the head of the family to which the minor belongs or by the person who is responsible for or watches over the minor.

PCC SECRETARIAT MEMBER RISQUET ATTACKS WORKER ABSENTEEISM

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 28 Jan 80 p 3

[Article by Joaquín Oramas]

[Text] Moa--The indepth analysis of problems which cause high rates of absenteeism in some of the youth crash projects [obras de choque] was the subject of extended debate during the fifth verification of national emulation in which they are engaged and which Jorge Risquet, member of the secretariat of the party Central Committee, summarized.

Also presiding at the plenary session held in the Moa Cultural Center were Luis Orlando Domínguez, member of the Central Committee and first secretary of the UJC [Union of Young Communists]; Aldo Alvarez, chief of the Construction Department of the Central Committee; Pedro Fernandez, secretary general of the Construction Union, and Manuel Sarmiento, first secretary of the party in Moa. Also in attendance was a delegation of the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] youth from Angola headed by Angela Braganza who in a brief speech conveyed the greetings of the young Angolans to their Cuban brothers and sisters. The first resolution adopted by the 126 delegates to the emulation verification meeting was to request that the entire program for the construction of new sugar mills be declared youth crash projects. They also resolved to institute special competition between the brigades building sugar mills to give an incentive to the first to get their machinery in operation and producing sugar.

The first outstanding emulation unit was the brigade building the Cienfuegos cement plant, which was made the recipient of the red standard of youth crash projects as a reward for its work in 1979. It was also resolved that the next national emulation verification exercise would be held in the Cienfuegos cement plant.

The following brigades were also found to be outstanding: the brigade constructing the 30 November sugar mill, in Pinar del Río; the Batalla de Las Guasimas, in Camaguey; the brigade renovating the Pedro Sotro Alba nickel plant; the Moa River bridge workers; those working on the housing program in Moa; and the construction workers of the Nuevo Mundo dam and the mechanical combine, both in this municipality.

Other outstanding brigades were those building the sugarcane bagasse paper combine, in Sancti Spiritus, expanding the Antonio Maceo thermoelectric power plant, in Santiago de Cuba, and the Mariel cement plant.

There was also a reading of the commitments of youth to crash projects in honor of the party's second congress, in which they pledge an implacable fight against neglect, any evidence of disorganization, absenteeism and, in general, against anything poorly done.

Frontal Attack Against Absenteeism

A broad analysis of the problems causing absenteeism in some of the crash projects took place in the heat of discussion of the central report of the emulation verification exercise which was read by Jose Ramon Rodriguez, from the national directorate of the UWC.

Luis Orlando Dominguez observed that absenteeism in the crash projects is a rather general problem. He said that difficulties are being noted which cannot be underestimated because of the mere fact that there had been advances in the fight against absenteeism. He proposed analysis of the problems which cause it, including those of an administrative kind, questions of strictness and political work being done, as well as the situation and the measures adopted to resolve that problem.

The Report

The central report reveals that last year the number of industrial projects in the crash projects movement increased to 16, on which 16,597 workers are employed, including 7,084 young people. Of these, 3,203 are activists.

The significant achievements include: the bridge over the River Moa project, which was completed 10 months ahead of schedule and is a labor feat. The report also points up the operation of the Cienfuegos cement plant which met its quota 126 percent and exceeded its productivity quota by 30 percent. Other units which met their quotas are the brigades working on expansion of the Antonio Maceo thermoelectric power plant, the brigade working on the 30 November sugar mill and the one rehabilitating the Pedro Sotto Alba plant.

Projects which had the greatest difficulty in meeting the requirements of the plan and production quotas are the Rio Cauto sugar mill in Granma and that of Rodas; the bottle factory in Las Tunas; the Nuevo Mundo dam; and the nickel plant, the last two in Moa.

Jorge Risquet's Speech

In his speech, Jorge Risquet said that as regards crash projects, our youth is moving forward in the best traditions of our working class. "By building, they build themselves as complete men and by advancing the work of the revolution they forge themselves as revolutionaries."

Later he said that new construction tasks to guarantee the country's economic development offer good prospects for the crash projects movement. He reported that the Secretariat of the Central Committee has approved 17 crash projects on the basis of proposals of the UJC National Committee and that other projects would be added to them in the near future.

"We want to hear the word 'present' from our youth when they are called upon for the new sugar mills, the Holguin integrated steel plant, the electronuclear power plant and the refinery at Cienfuegos," he emphasized, and then added that these projects will require the help of our youth.

When he spoke of the 1980 growth plan, he announced that one of its objectives was to be the establishment of adequate parameters of efficiency in which a principal role will be played by the various organizations of the Economy Management and Planning System.

Referring finally to the manner in which members of our foreign construction contingents should be selected and to the current changing of the contingents, Risquet said there is no doubt that the best breeding ground is the crash construction projects. Overseas projects are not susceptible of a workstyle other than the crash project approach, he concluded.

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WORKER DISCIPLINE IMPROVEMENT SET AS CTC GOAL

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 25 Jan 80 p 2

[Article by Evelio Telleria]

[Text] In support of the policy of strictness and discipline which our country demands in the labor sector, the national committee of the CTC [Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions] made a series of decisions designed to give a positive response to proposals of the eighth and ninth plenums of the party's Central Committee and our top leaders, as well as resolutions of the 14th Labor Congress.

The fundamental aspects upon which the union movement proposes to concentrate its efforts this year as regards labor and social legislation and its effective application are: the training of leaders, particularly those responsible for labor and social affairs, strengthening of the work councils, exercise of union inspection in the labor sector and participation of the CTC and its unions in the evaluation being made of prevailing labor legislation.

This information was supplied during a press conference held in this capital by Constantino Hermida, member of the secretariat of the central labor organization, a press conference during which emphasis was placed on the fight undertaken by the union movement against violations of socialist legislation, both those committed by the administrations and those attributable to the workers themselves.

Hermida reported that the CTC has just published a book with the title: "Compilation of Current Labor and Social Legislation," which contains the most important legal provisions on labor and social security, with a view to this material's serving as a study and consultation text for labor leaders and members of labor councils. It is expected that such editions will continue to be issued so that every center will have its library of labor and social legislation.

The work to be done will be coordinated with the State Committee for Labor and Social Security, as well as with organizations of the central administration of the state and the People's Government.

The CTC is taking part in the study being carried out by the committee of the National Assembly of the People's Government countrywide, in connection with problems and violations of socialist legislation which are affecting labor discipline.

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ARTICLES REFLECTING CURRENT ECONOMIC SITUATION

Women in Construction Trades

Havana TRABAJADORES in Spanish 10 Jan 80 p 1

[Text] The Third National Meeting of Women Construction Workers will take place during the last 2 weeks of February to complete a program of discussion and analysis that has been held at all levels of construction. About 140 delegates will meet for 1 day only in Havana to strengthen the judgment of the 36,102 women workers laboring in construction.

The occasion has the advantage of experience gathered in the two previous meetings, whose resolutions and results have strongly contributed toward the women's achieving in the construction trades a work attendance of 98.1 percent, much higher than the figure reached in the male work force.

Among the topics that will be discussed at the meeting are those concerning cultural and technical excellence, plastering, utilization, and the problems of women's social-environmental and work situation.

According to disclosures by the National Construction Union there are women comrades who for 2 or 3 years have been part of headquarters, projects and companies without having been properly assigned to a job.

Another problem that has been cropping up in construction is the occasional tendency of management to dismiss certain female comrades without an indepth examination to find a better solution.

Women are not always considered when selections are made for courses in upgrading qualifications despite there being more than 20,000 women in favored positions.

Penalties For Financial Indiscipline

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 17 Jan 80 pp 1,3

[Article by Gabriel Molina and Jose Gabriel Guma]

[Text] On the third day of the meetings of the First National Seminar on State Arbitration, which will end tomorrow, Friday, Alberto Arrinda, vice president of the State Finance Committee, emphasized the need to set up monetary penalties to root out financial indiscipline and also for companies that do not sign economic contracts.

Arrinda began the morning session by explaining the State Finance Committee's aims and workings to the seminar participants. He said economic contracts are the basis for arbitration.

Arrinda also explained the accounting system still suffers many flaws, and it is necessary to strengthen auditing operations at all levels.

Arrinda further said the System for Management and Planning of the Economy lacked arbitration, since lawsuits between associations and between companies are very frequent. "Arbitration fills a big need," he added, "since these matters do not belong to the Courts of Justice."

Afterward, Arrinda discussed the studies being done to revitalize the insurance field.

At the conclusion of their talk, the vice president and some civil servants accompanying him answered questions from the seminar participants.

The morning meeting ended with a talk by Narciso Cobo, consultant of JUCEPLAN (Central Planning Board) on general and particular points of transactions.

Afternoon Session

During the evening session, Sixto Navarro, state arbitrator of the National State Arbitration Agency, spoke at length on Organization of the State Arbitration System: Rules of the Organization.

Navarro pointed out that the State Arbitration System consists of the National State Arbitration Agency, joined to and dependent on the Council of Ministers; the territorial state arbitration agencies, under the authority of the National State Arbitration Agency; the State Arbitration Body, joined to the appropriate institutes of central state administration.

Examining the provisions of Decree 23, Navarro noted that the National State Arbitration Agency will have a minimum of seven arbitrators, chosen by the Council of Ministers according to the proposal by the council's president or by its appropriate vice president. There is one chief arbitrator and one chief vice arbitrator.

Navarro added that the National Agency will have a group of technicians or experts in various areas or branches of economics to aid the arbitrators in performing their duties. These technicians will carry out their consultative function simultaneously with their responsibilities in the respective agencies.

Regarding the territorial state arbitration agencies, Navarro said they will have a minimum of three arbitrators chosen by the National State Arbitration Agency, which in turn will name the chief arbitrator, choosing him from among the above-mentioned arbitrators. Navarro said the territorial state arbitration agencies will have not less than five consultants, technicians or experts in various areas of national economics, who will be chosen by the chief arbitrator.

Navarro declared that the arbitration agencies in the central state administration institutes will be created by the chief arbitrator of the national agency in the appropriate institutes. The chief arbitrator will decide on the institutes requiring an arbitration agency, which will have a minimum of three arbitrators chosen by the head of the appropriate institute, who in turn will name the chief arbitrator, choosing him from among the cited arbitrators.

At the same time, he noted, these agencies will have not less than five consultants and the chief arbitrator will have the main task of arbitrating, although an employee of the institute can be chosen for this function as long as the simultaneous performance of duties and responsibilities does not affect this priority.

Navarro also made it clear that legislation establishes the independence and impartiality of the state arbitrators, who must obey only the law, and who in performing their job will have the power and duty of interpreting and applying, of acting and deciding.

At the same session, lawyer Ramon Gonzalez, director of General Economics for the State Price Committee, spoke about "The Price System."

1979 Port Traffic Tonnage

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 19 Jan 80 p 3

[Article by Emilio del Barrio Menendez]

[Text] The ports, part of the Ministry of Transportation, last year handled 8,299,400 tons of merchandise, which shows a 93.6 percent fulfillment of the figure anticipated for the period.

Various factors beyond the workers' control have affected this nonfulfillment of the plan: decline in imports, lack of ship arrivals scheduled

for fixed times, circumstances of international markets, and domestic organizational reasons in the Transportation System of General Import and Export Freight (port-transportation-domestic economy chain).

Demurrage payments—that is the amount of money paid to shipowners when operations linger for more time than that fixed in the contracts—declined in absolute terms by about 91,000 pesos compared with the 1978 figure but increased relatively.

If we divide the total amount paid for demurrage by the total tonnage handled in 1978 we obtain 98 cents paid for every ton, which ratio in 1979 was 1.02 pesos per ton.

During 1979, the wage-productivity relationship was the following: for every peso paid out in wages 2.74 pesos in income was produced, which shows a nonfulfillment of the plan which called for 2.96 pesos. The wage base shows a 99.9 percent fulfillment compared with the anticipated figure, and work productivity in tons handled by worker-average shows a decline of 26 tons per man, in conformity with planned figures.

Apart from foreign and circumstantial factors that affected the 1979 plan for the ports, there are conditions that must be improved to achieve greater efficiency at the maritime terminals, in land transportation, and in the domestic economy, integral parts of the Transportation System of General Import and Export Freight.

At the ports, technological plans have to be applied to ship operations, which presently are not used, are used improperly or have not been made.

Tallying and inspection of damage to merchandise must be improved as well as the factor of the technical condition of port equipment.

Problems in work organization that create interruptions also have an effect with consequent waste of the working day. In this regard factors springing from other parts of the port-transportation-domestic economy chain also have a significant impact.

The payment levels for demurrage indicate disorder in the system's total working. It can be asserted that to a great extent demurrage payments result from domestic factors in the whole chain. The lack of cooperation between the system's integral parts and the nonfulfillment of schedules for the running of trains and their arrivals and departures—indispensable conditions for the system's operating smoothly—are elements that have to be eliminated.

Motor transportation (trucks) shows a low level of good technical maintenance at the depots and of usage, besides which there are other purely organizational factors that affect the whole system.

In the domestic economy, the warehouses are not considered a tool of management but rather a complement of the main operation, whether it be production or services; for this reason utilization of storage capacity is low. The use of methods to centralize freight is also limited.

We have pointed out only some of the main factors that adversely affect general management of the system, which plays a crucial part in the country's economy and directly affects fulfillment of production plans, the tasks of development and the population's consumption.

The determination of all who participate in the chain must be unified to eliminate all those organizational factors that threaten the efficiency of management throughout the system.

Cement Plant Problems Detailed

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 21 Jan 80 p 4

[Article by Rene Camacho Albert: "X-Ray of a Nonfulfillment"]

[Text] Those of us who have followed the rising work rate and its results in the Jose Merceron cement factory in Santiago de Cuba were deeply surprised that during 1979 they lost the lead among the country's factories and, even more, that they finished 1979 without perfectly fulfilling the year's technical-economic plan; of 630,000 tons of cement to be produced they reached only 612,612 tons for a little more than 97 percent of the production plan.

We were journalistic witnesses of the inflamed battle let loose in this factory during the decade of the 60's to extend its capabilities and to prepare it for the latest material and technological requirements. This organizing effort was repeated there starting from Fidel's visit in 1970, and from that moment started to show results to the extent that the factory began to produce consistently very much beyond its theoretical planning and assembling capability.

The production gains of 1977 and 1978—with abundant reason—made us assume that the Merceron, with the enthusiasm and responsibility of its laborers and technicians, had won the main battle of its task: to give the country what the country was demanding.

It is not that a 2.76 percent (equal to 17,388 tons of cement) nonfulfillment constitutes a far-reaching productive and economic calamity. The point is that a factory like Merceron, where the laborers and technicians showed a high level of organization and efficiency that they had achieved and kept up, surprised us all. The city's pride was hurt, and the question immediately came to mind: What factors caused this nonfulfillment? These factors have been material, individual and unpredictable.

Every productive process has a fixed location, and in cement manufacturing the ovens are the heart of the factory. The Merceron has three ovens, and each oven-hour (bearing in mind the actual amount produced last year) represents about 30 tons of cement. During 1979 at least 2,055 oven-hours were lost, that is about 61,000 tons of cement. This means the plan scheduled for 1979 should have gone well beyond its programmed output.

Of this large number of lost oven-hours, 495 can be attributed to the continuous torrential rains caused last September by Hurricane Frederic, which halted work in the quarries and brought September's plan to 75.25 percent of fulfillment. This unforeseeable factor prevented 17,850 tons of cement from being produced.

Factors related to organization of the work to a certain extent and to replacement and maintenance of the trucks, carriers, cranes, bulldozers and other equipment in the quarries caused the loss of another 100 oven-hours in the factory with the accompanying result.

But the essential problem, 1,460 oven-hours lost, lies in the ovens themselves and is a matter we must pause to study, assuming the basic principle that in the Merceron the party, the youth, the union and the management are strong enough and have developed a system of working and an awareness of social responsibility firm enough to overcome and to root out individual problems originating in the quarries.

The explanation of the problems in the ovens is not a simple one. The ovens hold imported heat-resistant bricks; these bricks should have arrived by a certain date, but they did not. Therefore 1,460 oven-hours were lost.

Among the organizational reasons that during the 1960's prevented this factory from reaching its theoretical levels of capability and operation there was, specifically, the scheduling of shutdowns in the ovens (together with other areas of the factory or not) for maintenance work. One of the problems that prevented achieving a national scheduling—a basic organizing principle—was specifically the lack of and unavailability of adequate heat-resistant bricks (in quality and quantity), perhaps as a result of obstacles in the market or directly due to the imperialist economic blockade to which we are subjected.

Each of the three ovens in the Merceron holds between 45,000 and 60,000 special bricks of four different sizes, whose cost varies between \$1 and \$2.50 each, and which usually are bought in Western European markets. During the 1970's, at least until 1978, there was an availability of bricks in the factory that progressively allowed carrying out a maintenance schedule in the ovens appropriate for the operations plan.

The fact is that these ovens are between 122 and 152 meters long, and inside them the bricks are divided by areas according to technological specifications. They have an operating time in which the laborers have

to stop the oven and change the bricks. When the bricks have been "spoiled" stains appear in the appropriate part of the oven revealing the place where the bricks have fallen, and the work has to be stopped. The irregularity of these stoppages can be avoided by systematically utilizing the average life of the bricks, since it takes between 26 and 30 hours just to wait for the oven to cool and the men to enter inside it to work.

At the end of 1978, the supply of silicoaluminous bricks, which form 80 percent of the oven's interior facing, started to decrease and obstacles became evident. Nevertheless, the 1978 plan was completely fulfilled. Moreover, in the middle of 1978 the plan of requirements for the coming year (1979) was presented, as is agreed, and one hoped the provision of bricks would be on time to cover this year's operations.

At the factory one has information that "due to obstacles in foreign markets" purchases of silicoaluminous bricks could not be made until April 1979, and the first shipments "in small quantities and not in all qualities" started to be received in the factory at the end of the first half of the year and the beginning of the second half. This situation, together with "Frederic" brought production in the third quarter of 1979 to 82.66 percent of the plan; but July produced only 71.03 percent of the month's plan.

The situation was more or less "saved in the nick of time" because the factory technicians in the face of this material problem went out through the whole country to similar centers and obtained discarded bricks or bricks with approximate technical specifications or simply unused bricks. Notwithstanding their effort and interest the technicians could not prevent a stoppage in the ovens for 1,460 hours and a production loss of more than 61,000 tons of cement.

We have to add that this multitude of lost oven-hours was also impaired by the lack of paste, which affects the working of the ovens and the utilization time of the heat-resistant bricks, and the fact that until now the bricks were in the open air. The warehouses are already built, and the adjustment of work in the quarries has to solve the other problems.

But the most important matter is this: at the present time the ovens have been incompletely repaired, heat-resistant bricks of certain dimensions have been placed in areas where they do not fit with the result that the facing of the ovens is a total patchwork that very strongly works against the factory's running smoothly, and these present circumstances are going to affect negatively the production planned for this year, which is about 630,000 tons of cement.

The factory's technicians completely agree that "patching up" the ovens in this way hindered stabilizing their production in past years, efficiently organizing the workers, scheduling and properly finishing maintenance work, and obliged everyone to invest--with small results--immeasurable mental and physical labor toward their goals.

Their objective is to reach normality again, and we think they will succeed, but not without some effort, by starting out with complete understanding of the problem, experience gained, and the organization achieved. This is what is demanded of them. It is their duty. One thinks also that efforts can be increased in trade negotiations abroad. Working from the knowledge that problems are also prevalent in this sphere, there is experience and there is a system to confront obstacles caused by the economic blockade and the capitalist market's instability. This too is their duty.

What is not easy to understand in Santiago de Cuba in the Jose Merceron cement factory is that since last December there have been in Havana hundreds of thousands of these bricks and that up to the writing of this article not a single one of the bricks has been received.

We believe the cement workers and technicians in Santiago de Cuba have fully lived up to the commitment they made to Fidel during the 1970's and to his congratulating them a short time ago, urging them to keep themselves at the crest of the front lines. But the Merceron workers and technicians demand--as is demanded of them--that everyone else also fulfill his duty.

Worker Absenteeism Affecting Harvest

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 21 Jan 80 p 1

[Excerpts] Absence of volunteers only for various reasons represented in the period studied 112,436 lost work days and 19 million arrobas left uncut. Espartaco was first among the best and Rene Fraga, Roberto Ramirez and Bartolome Maso were outstanding in their respective groups.

Spanish Republican Headquarters, Perico--The results of the first examination of special motivation in sugar cane harvesting constitute a warning to all agroindustrial labor forces participating in its development.

During the period studied, from the outset until 31 December, absences from cane cutting for unspecified reasons, among the volunteers only, under the heading of "other causes" and "other interruptions" represented 49,553 workdays not utilized, which could have been avoided to a large extent by better organization.

But there is more. If we add up all the reasons for absence, as Ramon Cardona of the executive secretaryship of the CTC (Central Organization of Cuban Workers) pointed out in the study's conclusions, we will find that lost workdays reached 112,436. These days, added up by the actual average per man achieved in this harvest, would have made it possible to cut 19 million more arrobas.

Nevertheless the motivational meeting opening the season met with greater enthusiasm and attendance than during the previous meetings. Especially notable were the outstanding organizational efforts of the Matanzas contingent who, in passing, needless to say, grabbed up half of the individual and group awards handed out here yesterday.

Sadly the country did not behave efficiently in all the categories studied.

During this examination, which was headed by Alfredo Menendez, chief of the Sugarcane Department of the party Central Committee; Luis Martell and Alfredo Suarez, general secretaries of the Sugarcane and Transport Unions respectively, and Walfredo Saenz, chief of the CTC's Voluntary Work Department, there was a noticeable absence of national leaders from cane farming and manufacturing.

In his summary, Cardona emphasized there are "factors that we can improve and that depend on our devotion to work and on our effort. This is the situation of attendance at manual and mechanized cutting, utilization of the workday and increase in productivity."

9545

CSO: 3010

CUBA

THREE HUNDRED INSPECTORS CHECKING LAW VIOLATIONS IN HAVANA

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 21 Jan 80 p 3

[Text] AIN--Three hundred inspectors from the administrative offices are at work in Havana City to ensure compliance with Decree-Law 27, which became effective on 3 January, according to the Directorate of Justice of the People's Government in the province.

These inspectors are legally authorized to perform their duties and have an ID card for accreditation purposes.

Violators of the law are required to present their ID cards upon request of the inspectors or National Revolutionary Police officers.

The inspectors are authorized to issue a citation to citizens violating the law in any of the zones in this area and to forward this citation to the control office in the citizens' place of residence, unless the offenders have work or school ties in the locality where the infraction takes place.

In cases of transients from other provinces, notification will be sent to their places of origin, as the fine will be imposed and paid wherever they live.

8143
CSO: 3010

MEDICAL GRADUATES WILL MEET POPULATION NEEDS BY 1981

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 23 Nov 79 p 1

[Article by Jose A. de la Osa]

[Text] Beginning with 1981, at least 1,000 physicians will receive their degrees in Cuba each year, with training which will meet the requirements of our society and of present-day scientific and technical development. This was announced to GRANMA by Prof Ernesto de la Torre, First Vice Minister of MINSAP [Ministry of Public Health], who will deliver a lecture on "The Future of Higher Medical Education" in one of the sessions of the Scientific-Pedagogic Conference of the Havana Higher Institute of Medical Sciences, which is being held in this capital.

At this time, classes are being given in the Higher Institutes of Medical Sciences of Havana, Santiago de Cuba and Camaguey, and the Medical Schools of Holguin, Camaguey, Matanzas and Pinar del Rio, with a total enrollment of some 11,000 students.

Some 1,800 are also being trained in dentistry, and 1,400 for a degree in nursing, the latter a recent innovation.

De la Torre stated that one of the most important projects for the coming year is the extension of medical education to new provinces, "which will be a gradual process, and firmly based," beginning with giving some years of the course as the areas of instructions are built up.

An example of the foregoing can be seen in the year of 1978-79, in which a number of students stated their internship (sixth year) in Bayamo (Granma), Guantanamo and Ciego de Avila, and now it will also begin in Cienfuegos. Also, the possibility of carrying out specialization (residency) courses in some of these provinces is being studied.

The MINSAP, with the methodological orientation of the Ministry of Higher Education, places special emphasis on the training of the students of medicine in the health areas (polyclinics) "which motivate them for the practical activity which they carry out here, and which is extremely useful to them for their work as future physicians."

To link the transition between the student and the physician who is already practicing even closer, after the 1980-81 school year internship will take on new characteristics: all the students will rotate through four important specialties—internal medicine, pediatrics, surgery and obstetrics and gynecology—in time periods which will range from 2 to 3 months, which will contribute to the synthesis and integration of the medical knowledge which has been acquired.

Up until now , the sixth year of the course has been spent in a specific specialty, pediatrics or surgery, for example, and only some of the students did rotating internships.

Another highly important event has been going on in the field of medical education: the compilation of medical textbooks for the students by groups of Cuban authors, "because we have professors with great prestige and knowledge to undertake this enormous task," said de la Torre.

A preliminary version of "Medical Ethics and Introduction to Specialty" has already been published; and in the next few weeks "Clinical Propedeutica" will go to press as a definitive text, written by a team of physicians coordinated by Prof Raimundo Llanio. There are 13 texts in all being produced simultaneously at present.

The vice minister also announced that in the remainder of the year and during 1980, construction will begin on new medical schools with a capacity for 1,500 students in Pinar del Rio, Matanzas and Camaguey, where they are operating in adapted buildings; and in Las Tunas, Cienfuegos, Guantanamo and Granma.

8131

CSO: 3010

'PRELA' PUBLICATION FOCUSES ON HAITIAN 'SLAVES'

Havana PRISMA LATINOAMERICANO in Spanish Jan 80 p 2

[Article by Carlos Mora Herman]

[Text] "The crew of a boat which was secretly bringing 18 Haitians to the United States forced them to jump into the sea a quarter of a mile from the West Palm Beach coast. Six of them drowned, including five children; 10 others reached shore and were seized by the police. Two have disappeared; however, it is believed that they reached land and are hidden.

"The survivors report that the boat's crewmen threw the children into the sea first to force the others to follow them. Hours later, the police captured the boat which had picked up the Haitians in the Bahamas and arrested four persons whom they charged with murder."

This report was disseminated 1 day last October by American press agencies.

It is estimated that one-half million Haitian exiles in the last few years have fled from the Duvalier terror, exercised first by the founder of the dynasty, Papa Doc, and since his death in 1971, by his son, Jean Claude Duvalier.

These exiles are fleeing in fragile boats, using extremely precarious and risky means.

In the last days of 1979, it was reported that about 209 Haitians were living out-of-doors and without food on two keys in southern Florida, which they had reached aboard various kinds of boats in their flight from their country.

Some 167 of those refugees are on Salt Cay, 160 miles southeast of Key West, and another 42 on Orange Key, about 100 km east of Fort Lauderdale.

How did the Haitian refugees reach those keys?

There is a ring of very well-organized Americans and Cubans who work for the CIA and who pick up those refugees and, for the sum of \$550 per person, offer to take them secretly to the United States and even to get work for them there.

Then they abandon them on those keys and on occasion, like the one we reported at the beginning of this article, when they are surprised by the U.S. Coast Guard, they throw the refugees into the sea.

In 1979, about 9000 Haitians were taken out of their country by these modern pirates who traffic in human suffering. However, not all Haitians who flee their country go to the United States.

According to a report made in the United Nations, thousands of Haitian laborers are sent to work in the sugarcane fields of the Dominican Republic by a ring which receives \$11 for each laborer delivered to the Dominican landowners.

There is also a third method of exploiting the Haitian people by bandits from their own country and American companies who use them in exclusive U.S. clinics.

All this is happening in a Latin American country subjected to cruel and pitiless exploitation, right under the nose of the great imperialist power which boasts of being the champion of human rights and democracy.

Haiti, with 27,750 square km and almost 6 million inhabitants has a basically agricultural economy which is in the hands of foreign capital.

There are no independent unions, nor strikes, nor individual guarantees, nor freedom; and the country has been gradually falling into the hands of the large American transnational companies.

Of the 230 factories in Haiti, 150 are U.S. property. The remaining 80 are of mixed capitalization (only 20 percent of their capitalization is Haitian).

Ninety of every 100 inhabitants are illiterate; there is one doctor of every 15,000 persons; and infant mortality is 150 per 1000.

Terror in Haiti is exercised by the government through a repressive apparatus made up of paramilitary forces. They were first known as "Tonton Macoutes," a name which has been replaced by "Los Leopardos," a corps of "rangers" made up of about 1200 men under the direct command of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

The U.S. manipulation of the Haitian Government goes back to 1915, when the marines landed and, despite the heroic resistance of the "revolutionary army," headed by Charlemagne Peralte and the peasants from the north, occupied the country militarily.

Peralte was assassinated by the Americans in 1919, and up to 1934 Washington worked patiently to establish indirect but very effective mechanisms to ensure governments loyal and obedient to U.S. interests.

The Duvalier family went to such extremes in Haiti as selling parts of the national territory as if they were dealing with parcels of a private farm.

Tortuga Island, located in the Windward Passage, was ceded to the American transnational company, Dupont Caribbean Co., for a period of 99 years; and the country's beaches are mortgaged to foreign tourist companies.

Toward the end of 1979, a new repressive wave was started in Haiti.

Jean Claude Duvalier, who on the death of his father, said that the latter had brought about the political revolution and that he was going to bring about the economic revolution, has been unable to fulfill his promise and has again unleashed the repression which had never ceased, although it had moderated in intensity.

However, the situation today is not the same as it was a few years ago. A dynasty, very much like that of the Duvaliers, the Somoza dynasty, was ended with a bang in Nicaragua; and this has given encouragement to Haitian patriots and foretells a tormented future in 1980 for the son of Papa Doc and his tyrannical regime.

8143

CSO: 3010

KTP-1 SUGARCANE COMBINE HARVESTER PRODUCTION QUALITY FAILURES

Havana BOHEMIA in Spanish 16 Nov 79 pp 16-21

[Article by Raul Palazuelos: "The KTP Case, Proceed With Care"]

[Text] After ending an extensive 3-day tour of the Sixtieth Anniversary of the October Revolution plant which produces and assembles the KTP, initials which in Spanish translate to "direct feed single row combine," and before putting hands on the typewriter to write this article, I was able to review uncertainties and differences; consult various materials related to the subject, determine between criticisms and praise, phillipics and paralogisms from the side of mechanical constructions as well as from the side of overly optimistic conclusions.

Speaking of Comparisons

Since first things come first, I will investigate the reaction to opinions and statements which appeared in the press on the quality of the KTP-1.

It is frankly admitted that the machine, although it is a good piece of equipment and very broadly fulfills its purposes, is not, nor can it be, a perfect machine because it is designed for cutting in canefields with a yield of no more than 60,000 arrobas and, specifically, in canefields which have been "burned."

Another aspect much in vogue is the comparison, made with the best intentions, between Cuban agricultural equipment and the Soviet-made KTP, which has been arriving in Cuba for some years, particularly the more recent models.

I believe that comparing the two machines is the equivalent of comparing a ZIL-130 truck with a 120-ton Kamaz, if you will allow me the comparison, from which would be derived a logical reasoning: both are certainly trucks, automotive vehicles differentiated by an incomparable concept of modernity and technical level.

In the specific case of the Soviet-made KTP, which I believe is still being made by the fraternal Ukhtomskiy enterprise at Liubertsy, it is subject to a constant improvement in technical design based on suggestions by cane growers who use it. This can be accomplished continuously due to the development and technical power of a machine industry undergoing a systematic improvement and broadening of technical level such as that of the country of the Soviets.

Can the Cuban plant perhaps allow itself these efforts at perfecting technology? Putting together all the figures and information evaluated and received at the Holguin KTP plant, it can be understood at once that it is not possible in a plant where production was begun only two and one-half years ago without much experience, particularly when it was begun with recently trained personnel, the majority of whom had no working experience at all. It was a plant, which although it had the help of no fewer than 100 highly skilled Soviet advisers, for the first time had the responsibility of profiting from a complex, very universal technology and technical equipment without a complete industrial process of its own.

At the same time, the user of the KTP, with his experience in the use of the other machines used in the country, has been properly correcting the response of the Cuban machine to the needs in yield, operational capability and so forth in the field, and adjusting it while on the march to the many varieties of cane, types of planting and terrain of the country. All of this while maintaining the Soviet KTP as well as the Massey-Ferguson as the point of comparison with respect to what they mean in technical development.

If to all of the foregoing we add the specific weight of the fact that in some cases comparisons pit the nationally-built KTP-1 against its second-generation competitor, the KTP-2 (specialized for harvesting green cane), comparisons enter into the realm of a fight between a sheared lion and a bulldog.

Nevertheless, the KTP-1 has had, and still has, significant technological shortcomings. Plant personnel are the first to admit it, although they explain how they have been eliminating from 80 to 90 percent of initial difficulties. Despite this, the information they provide us with confirms an undeniable fact: If it achieved 100 percent efficiency with respect to the plan, the machine designed for cutting burned cane would still require modifications.

The Limits of a Plan

While the construction workers were still hurriedly putting the finishing touches on the plant installations, after having completed it a year ahead of schedule--perhaps because of that haste, leaks due to rain are now a nuisance, a danger and a potential threat inside the plant--; when the gradual start of operations in the shops was beginning and five machines

were already on the assembly line, one of which was completely finished and waiting for Fidel to drive it symbolically at the inauguration of the enterprise on 27 July 1977; days before this important moment for the national machinery industry, I was at KTP and wrote an article published in BOHEMIA (22-7-77).

At that time I received abundant information worth recalling now.

No fewer than six institutes of the Soviet Union had worked tirelessly on the plans for the plant on the basis of many field tests made by Cuban and Soviet agricultural specialists and engineers. The plan had been in the hands of Soviet plant builders in 1972 and it materialized with the beginning of operations by the Cuban plant in 1977; to be more specific, 5 years later. That is the production technology now used in the manufacture of the KTP-1, 7 years after the plan was conceived.

However, the plant has been incorporating various modifications to the machine suggested by its agricultural customers. A total of 49 recommendations have been received, and it has already resolved 22 of them, with all that means technically, and they are being applied in the assembly line, although another 27 remain to be technically resolved. At the same time, quality control of parts, components and assemblies of the equipment has been perfected and they are provided with a stamp of approval, even though that quality control does not yet completely certify each and every one of the parts of the machine. For example, this control was not duly exercised until the first 155 machines had been produced. That led to severe criticism, some even intemperate and arbitrary, but some of it not completely devoid of reason.

I must confess that the only explanation that did not convince me among all the valid explanations received at the plant, referred to the fact that in the delivery of an uncertified machine to its users there was usually a pressing demand from them. I definitely believe that this became a boomerang and it appears to establish a conclusion that should be considered in the future: plans must be complied with without exception and quality is an essential category of every plan, which if not present, can significantly lessen its social validity.

Obviously that cannot be easy, particularly when one is aware of the real capabilities, I mean the present capabilities, of the plant where the majority of the 2,361 different parts of the machine are manufactured, even though the machine must include 370 components imported from the USSR, among them the powerful motor. In this respect, there is talk of a new 180-horsepower motor built by the Soviets for this type of equipment, motorized cranes and others. We know, for example, that an average of 3.5 operations per part are performed in the machine shop, and up to 17 for some of them. This is an example of the complexity involved.

But that is no excuse for the massive rejection of parts taking place.

Jorge Pedroso, young pioneer assembly worker of the plant, expresses it specifically: "Although there are fewer problems now than when we began assembly work, we have delays in assembly because of defects in mechanical parts: the structure has parts with design problems; some parts have problems because of sloppy work by the lathe operators and many parts are discarded because of a lack of quality. There are parts, made by ourselves as well as by cooperating units, which do not arrive in time and they delay assembly work, work which is now being accomplished at the rate of 1.5 machines per day, although it is expected that at full capacity we will attain a rate of 1.05 machines assembled per work shift, which means some three combines daily."

In the aspect of parts made by cooperating units, Engineer Marcial Almaguer, assembly shop chief, was very categorical: "We continue to have problems with parts made by cooperating units, particularly foundry products provided us by enterprises of our own Ministry of the Metalworking Industry such as Vanguardia Socialista, Planta Mecanica, Indalecio Montego and 30 de Noviembre."

To close the chapters on the KTP-1 in this article, which does not in itself mean that there is not much more remaining to be carefully investigated, but which may be too technical for our readers and perhaps for the writer himself, I quote the words of Engineer Gonzalo Alvarez, our guide for three days: "One of our two present lines of work is in terms of responding completely to recommendations made on the machine by its agricultural users."

Naturally this means a rearrangement of the building itself and a greater accent on quality, beginning with the technical parameters of raw materials, blueprints and specifications, machining and heat treatment, and above all, the checking and supervision of all parameters of each step of the production process.

From a "Cricket" to a "Spider"

The reader should not be alarmed. We are not going into problems of insect mutations or science fiction, although there are some aspects of mutation in the subject, and even though it would be better to say a logical evolution of the cane harvesting combine. Let us remember that in his speech inaugurating the plant, Commander in Chief Fidel sounded the trumpet call about what was expected from the Holguin-based plant in the development of new and more improved KTP machines.

Now the KTP-1, its historic role in our cane agriculture having been fulfilled, will be giving way to the KTP-2 and later on to the KTP-3. Here we are only concerned with the new model actually under development to fill technical needs determined by the evolution of concepts in sugarcane agriculture whose definitive direction appears to be oriented toward the harvesting of green cane, subject which with the readers' permission I will leave to my colleague Andres Rodriguez, a reporter of the sugar industry, who more than once has dealt with the subject of the KTP from the agricultural point of view and has reflected the sometimes adverse opinions of specialists in that sector.

To accomplish the production of the green cane "spider," the KTP-2, to replace the "cricket," the KTP-1 (they look like those insects, do you not think so?), a technical and technological rearrangement of the Holguin plant must be accomplished at the cost of an estimated 3.5 million pesos. The Soviet metalworking industry will once more play a predominant role in this endeavor to help in the preparation of 2,005 new technological processes and 986 nomenclatures for technological "utillage" (Common Gallicism used to speak of tools, utensils and technical instruments), blueprints, mockups, mechanical devices for machining, welding and so forth. A considerable part of all this change will be accomplished in the Soviet Union, as has already been said, but the plant itself will accomplish another no less considerable part, in which technical documentation for production (including parts and pieces, naturally) as well as the construction of "utillage" will be of great importance.

I believe it is a good time to dispell any doubts--which I confess assailed me at first--on the development of the machine. We must perforce speak of a true "genetic" change because the KTP-2, as was emphasized in the plant, is a new machine in many of its parts so that it may respond to the concept of work for which it was designed and that is why it requires many technical, organizational and material measures which must be properly resolved.

The Case of the KTP: Proceed With Care

A three-year timetable has been considered for the preparation, testing and introduction of new the technologies and technological "utillage" required; reorganization and adjustment of the technical flow of spare parts and assemblies and a review of the respective routes; also the assimilation of production by the assembly line and the establishment of production rates that the shop should attain and the adjustment of normative rates for technical preparation of production so as to eradicate dislocations in the production timetable, which in the manufacture of the KTP-1 appears to have had a negative influence in obtaining a greater production rate.

The regular introduction into production of the 39 main mechanical assemblies of the green cane harvester-combine considers steps in which a dynamic, gradual but consecutive sequence must be maintained in keeping with the following methodological order:

- 1) Of the 39 assemblies of the equipment, technological preparation of 18 of them should be accomplished in 1980 with a view to the production of 40 combines in 1981. The technological preparation in that year of another 15 assemblies, whose final tests should be made in 1982, will also take place.
- 2) In 1982 there will be, therefore, a total of 33 assemblies already tested and, consequently, 50 KTP-2 combines may be manufactured. At the same time, preparation of another five assemblies will be done, which will allow an overall production of 150 machines in 1983, in which will be included 38 assemblies technologically prepared within the plant itself.
- 3) One of the assemblies of the total of 39 planned, the glassed-in, very comfortable and safe cabin for the operator, will be provided through the cooperation of the Giron bus factory in Ciudad de la Habana Province.

With the assimilation of the 39 mechanical assemblies mentioned, the KTP factory can undertake a production program consisting completely of the KTP-2 combine as of 1982, of which it will produce 400 machines that year. The following year, 1985, the plant should reach a scheduled design capacity for producing 600 KTP-2 combines.

However, the aforementioned effort described is much more complex because it shall not be the only one. Production of the KTP-1 should continue until 1982, although in a gradually declining manner as the green cane machine is put into use.

This means that for a 5-year period the plant should work simultaneously in two parallel directions, since there is a technological difference of around 48 percent between the KTP-1 and the KTP-2.

An Opinion Based on Realities

Following the lines of the original plan for the plant, on arriving at 1980 (as published, presumably means 1985), the last year of the 5-year period, 500 combines should be produced and the technical-economic plan of the plant should result in around 30 million pesos in total produced values, including spare parts and components for its own production of machines.

From its inauguration in 1977 to the present year—including the plan for 79—the total of machines produced would be around 545, among which are 5 KTP-2 prototype machines. Specifically, the plan for the present year views the production of 350 KTP's (and the manufacturers enthusiastically say that they should exceed that number).

From the simple foregoing analysis I surmise the following: If up to the current year the plant has been facing problems with various supplies, among which I include those of spare parts and components manufactured domestically as well as abroad, the effect of substituting for raw materials and the problems with parts for the plan, which cannot respond to requirements because they must be obtained in different markets and because of that it lacks homogeneity; if in the final year of the 5-year period the factory must already begin to prepare itself technologically to begin production of the KTP-2, abiding strictly by the plans for it; after carefully studying these and other factors, I reconsider and ask myself—I do not know exactly why but perhaps it is because of a mental association I make between this and like or analogous situations—if the entire plan for producing the new model combine is not too ambitious. I cannot refrain from recalling the problems of the Amistad Cubano-Soviética truck repair enterprise where the intercalation of technologies, problems with supplies of parts and other problems appear to have given rise to many setbacks.

At any rate, I believe that although mine are merely concerns without any great chance of materializing, it is well to keep them in mind so that in the final year of the next 5-year period KTP-2 production will not be below planned levels despite the present plans for the development of that important or even fundamental industry for producing the technical means for socioeconomic development.

The foregoing precautions notwithstanding, it is obvious that there is a need for high levels of finely adjusted organization almost with the precision of a watch movement; for a consistent and systematic control of timetables for the preparation and execution of the plan, as well as for the structuring of measures for guaranteeing an increase in labor productivity and technological discipline by means of the mechanisms of moral and material incentives available to the administration and the union movement, as well as incentives of ideological type by the party organizations.

With respect to the parts and components of which the KTP has so many, I believe that as of now a serious and analytical discussion of their problems should be held, particularly on those received through the cooperation of other enterprises. The poor quality of those parts affects not only the KTP which emerges from the Holguin plant, but also—it is natural to think this—has an effect when those parts are used as replacements in machines already being used by the hundreds.

There is another worrisome problem I believe is no less worthy of attention. Thousands of spare parts and components for the cane combines in operation are manufactured in the country now. Certainly, as was very clearly established in a recent BOHEMIA roundtable discussion, they are using an enormous number of spare parts and anyone could reasonably ask himself whether such a wasteful situation is not the result of usage and maintenance which violates standards. It is also known that a large number of the enterprises which use their resources in making these items do not always have up-to-date technical documents, while the Sixtieth Anniversary of the October Revolution enterprise continues to introduce into its machines the modifications the agricultural users make available to it and which, after all, are going to be of great use to the plant in the production of the new model KTP-2 (and even when work is begun on the KTP-3 plan).

I dare say that the technical documents, which may be considered outdated, should be rescinded and the preparation and printing of the new, up-to-date documents compatible with the efforts and resources invested should be centralized and their replacement should be considered when progress in development of the machines so requires.

I believe that if this is not done, perhaps next year we will have a very good combine responsive to the requirements of work in the canefield. However, when it has a breakdown, it will have a part or component of backward technology placed in it and immediately the operator and others will be able to denigrate the quality of the cane combine.

Before suspending the subject of the cane combine--I say suspending because there is the intention of taking it up in greater length in forthcoming articles--fully committed to understanding the enormous effort made by the country to provide man with a powerful means for freeing himself from the brutal work of cutting sugarcane, where he is assailed by the tropical sun, goaded by the cold of the early morning, and soaked to the skin by rain, I cannot refrain from uttering one more fraternal warning on the subject of quality: There must be quality in production and quality in usage, which is where the efforts by the country and those of the national machine industry truly materialize.

Inasmuch as an export potential appears before the producers, according to the line established for the country, it is obvious to think about how our production of agricultural mechanical equipment invested with very high quality may calmly enter the fray in the international arena of demand and do so with qualitative material capable of proudly competing with agricultural equipment produced in other countries.

PHOTO CAPTIONS

1. p 16. With notable technological and operational changes, in which recommendations of cane agriculture are considered, the KTP-2 will be a machine produced by the plant as of 1984 as a production plan.
2. p 17. A small example of assemblies in which some of the modifications recommended by agricultural specialists have been made.
3. p 18. A large percentage of the technological "utillage" must be changed completely, manufactured anew to undertake production of the KTP-2.
4. p 19. With their main assemblies subjected to no less than three tests, the combines receive final adjustments in the assembly shop although the quality certification is not yet complete.
5. p 20. One of the first KTP-1 built by the Sixtieth Anniversary plant without the backing of a quality certification. This one shown in the photograph was operated by Fidal at the inauguration of the plant.
6. p 21. On the table may be seen the parts made the day before, while the technologist places those parts which do not comply with requirements down below. It was learned that the rejection rate is now two percent of the parts produced.
7. p 21. "I would say that the initial difficulties of the machine have been 80-percent eliminated, however, even achieving 100-percent efficiency with respect to the plan, the machine still requires modifications to be efficient in the field." Engineer Gonzalo Alvarez, quality control chief.

8908

CSO: 3010

BRIEFS

U.S. INTERVENTION IN LATIN AMERICA-- ...of El Salvador charged that the U.S. Government had turned over to the Saivadoran regime military aid valued at over \$50 million. They added that a flotilla of U.S. armed helicopters, similar to the ones used in the genocidal war against the Vietnamese people, are now stationed at Ilopango airport some 10 km from San Salvador. For almost a century the U.S. imperialists dominated the Central American countries at will and carried out many military interventions, imposed criminal and unpopular regimes, sacked the natural resources and gave economic and military support to the most despicable tyrannies in the region. The U.S. interventions have cost the Latin American peoples an impressive amount of blood, violations and wealth. Now that these peoples have had enough of so many years of oppression and have intensified their century-old struggle for their right to democracy and progress, the imperialists try to wrest this right from them and to drown the thirst for freedom in blood. Determined to return to the cold war, gunboats and the big stick, U.S. imperialists forget that times have changed and the correlation of forces is in favor of detente, independence, democracy, progress and peace. [Excerpt] [PA270203 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 26 Feb 80 PA]

INDEPENDENCE WAR ANNIVERSARY--The national events marking the 85th anniversary of the resumption of the war of independence was held this Sunday at the town of Baire, closing the drive in marking the days. The ceremony was chaired by Jose Ramon Balaguer, first party secretary in Santiago de Cuba Province, and Faustino Perez, president of the office for affairs of local people's government organs. Faustino Perez eulogized the heroes of the war of independence and referred to the historic significance of 24 February 1895, stating that it was the final decision to finalize the revolutionary work initiated by Carlos Manuel de Cespedes on 10 October 1868. As part of the historic commemoration, the Baire central park, the San Bartolo cockpit, La Rinconada camp and the Pinos de Baire area were declared national monuments. [Text] [FL251139 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 25 Feb 80 FL]

SUGAR WORKERS RALLIED--More than 7,000 workers of Havana Province's sugar industry are holding flash rallies in response to a request by Roberto

Veiga, member of the PCC Central Committee and secretary general of the Central Organization of Cuban Workers, in a speech closing the second national harvest evaluation meeting in Cienfuegos. The first meeting of this type was held Monday at the Amistad con los Pueblos sugar mill in Guines, which was chaired by Luis Martell Rosas, secretary general of the National Sugar Workers Union. The mill workers made known their readiness to continue efforts aimed at making this harvest the most efficient in the country's history. [Text] [FL261121 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 26 Feb 80 FL]

WESTERN SAHARAN ANNIVERSARY DELEGATION--Cuban First Vice Foreign Minister Rene Anillo today traveled to the Sahara desert to participate in the festivities marking the fourth anniversary of the proclamation of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic. Anillo heads a delegation consisting of Cuban ambassador to Algeria Raul Barzaga and Pedro Machado, an official of the PCC Foreign Relations Department. The Cuban leader will speak tomorrow at the main event organized by the Western Saharan people, to be attended by nearly 400 guests from all parts of the world. Cuba established diplomatic relations with the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic last 21 January. This is the first time that Cuba is represented on a governmental level for that most important anniversary of the Western Saharan people. [Text] [FL261517 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1506 GMT 26 Feb 80 FL]

SOVIET RESIDENTS--A delegation of the 177 delegates of Villa Clara Province to the third congress of the Federation of Cuban Women [FMC] has met with a group of Soviet women who work in Villa Clara Province. The FMC members heard a lecture on the Soviet women by (Lidiya Estriabina), professor of the Central University Preparatory School. The lecturer referred to the international women's struggle and noted the women's participation in USSR economic, political and social affairs. During the meeting the Soviet professor also pointed out that half of the labor force in the USSR are women and that 03.5 percent of the Soviet women either work or study. [Text] [FL271749 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1513 GMT 27 Feb 80 FL]

VEGETABLE PRODUCTION--Jose Ramirez Cruz, member of the PCC Central Committee and president of the National Association of Small Farmers, has toured vegetable farms in the municipality of Lajas and Cienfuegos Province. The peasant leader chatted with farmers producing tomatoes and peppers and asked about yields, cultivation techniques, irrigation systems and other factors related to the harvesting of those products. Numerous peasants and their relatives gathered around Ramirez Cruz, who asked them about their problems and explained in detail the advantages of forming farm cooperatives. [Text] [FL271749 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 27 Feb 80 FL]

SUGARCANE DELIVERY EFFORT--Roberto Veiga, member of the party Central Committee and secretary general of the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions, has called on canecutters in Gramma and Santiago de Cuba provinces to fulfill the sugarcane delivery program. Veiga made the concluding remarks

this morning in Santiago de Cuba at the third meeting to evaluate the sugar harvest program in the five eastern provinces. The most outstanding province in this respect was Holguin. Veiga said the sugarcane delivery program in Holguin and Las Tunas was coming along satisfactorily while an increase was noted in Guantanamo. Granma and Santiago de Cuba are experiencing difficulties in the delivery of sugarcane to the sugar mills. Overall, Veiga said, workers are responding to Commander in Chief Fidel Castro's appeal on the sugar harvest. [FL272009 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1905 GMT 27 Feb 80 FL]

BULGARIAN ART OFFICIAL--(Ivan Teodosiev), deputy director of Bulgaria's amateur arts general directorate, has visited Holguin at the invitation of the Cuban Culture Ministry. The Bulgarian official was very interested in the work done by the people's councils in Holguin. [FL272009 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1916 GMT 27 Feb 80 FL]

MATERIAL INCENTIVES DISCUSSED--PCC Politburo members Arnaldo Milian Castro, minister of agriculture, and Jose R. Machado Ventura spoke during the last day of working sessions of the 10th meeting of the agricultural workers union national committee. We are resolutely striving toward the implementation of the principle that each worker should be paid according to his work, toward the payment of bonuses for high yields in productivity and toward the system of wages for completed fields, Milian pointed out. Regarding the bonuses, it was announced that the system will be implemented in all branches where high yields can be achieved. This year the system will be applied in some farm areas and by 1981 it will be expanded to all areas if a good effort is made, Milian added. For his part, Machado Ventura noted that the agricultural workers are responsible for a large share of the national economy and their work is decisive for the country. [Text] [FL281352 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 28 Feb 80 FL]

CPSU DELEGATIONS—Jose R. Machado Ventura, member of the Political Bureau and Secretariat, received at Central Committee headquarters the CPSU delegation headed by A. P. Filatov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Novosibirskaya Oblast Committee. In the meeting subjects relating to party work in Cuba and the USSR were discussed, as were questions of the economic development of our country and aspects of the exchange of experience between our party and the CPSU. In the meeting, which took place in the fraternal atmosphere which characterizes Cuban-Soviet relations, other members of the delegation from the CPSU Central Committee participated: G. M. Baskanian, member of the Secretariat of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee, and Vladimir Manko, official of the Cuban section of the CPSU Central Committee. The Cuban side was represented by Jorge Valdes, Nicodemus Lopez, and Gervasio Hernandez, chief, deputy chief and official, respectively, of the Department of Organization, and Luis Felipe Vazquez, from the General Department of Foreign Relations

of the party Central Committee. Marlen A. Manasov, acting charge d'affaires of the Soviet Embassy in Cuba, accompanied the delegation. [Text] [Havana GRANMA in Spanish 22 Nov 79 p 3] Havana (AIN)--Antonio Perez Herrero, member of the Secretariat of the party Central Committee, received Comrades C. M. Kachin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of Kamchatkaskaya Oblast, and G. A. Kutorchebski, consultant from the Propaganda Department of the CPSU Central Committee, who are in our country on an exchange between the two parties. During the meeting the Cuban side was represented by Eduardo Vidal and Ra Cuesta, chief of section and official respectively of the Department of Revolutionary Orientation, and Jean Alberto Morente, an official of the General Department of Foreign Relations of the Central Committee. Marlen A. Manasov, acting charge d'affaires of the USSR Embassy in Cuba was present on the Soviet side. [Text] [Havana GRANMA in Spanish 13 Dec 79 p 3] 8131

CSO: 30k0

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

PR LEADERS OUTLINE REFORMIST PLATFORM

Santo Domingo EL NACIONAL in Spanish 10 Jan 80 p 18

[Article by Jose Pimentel]

[Text] Reformist Party [PR] leaders today announced they had formed what they termed the "reformist trend" to fight for substantial changes in that organization.

The main objective of the group is to bring about a general reform of the party leadership, which is headed by former president Joaquin Balaguer.

Another goal is to provide for individual election, instead of by slates, of the executive board of directors in the next national convention.

They also want to introduce the secret ballot for national party committees, and eliminate the system of election by acclamation.

The formation of the "reformist trend" and its goals was announced at a press conference this morning at the main headquarters of the PR in this capital.

The main members of the group who took part in the press conference are: Dr Juan Esteban Olivero Feliz, Federico Atun Batlle, Victor Bisono, Dr Baron Suncar Mella, Jose Eligio Bautista Ramos, Federico Mateo, Santiago Hildago Reynoso, Hector Cocco Castillo, and Claudio de los Santos.

The group presented a statement that "we are the embodiment, the life and essence of the outcry and feelings of our colleagues and compatriots who, clamoring from all corners of the republic, are demanding reform of the party leadership."

The statement indicated that the group is striving for an atmosphere "in which party struggle as it has developed is judged according to its actual value and dimensions, without favoritism and arbitrary appointments."

The reformist leaders said that they are "raising the banner of reform in the damaged areas which were the cause of the defeat in the last elections and which are presently an acid ingredient working against the harmonious development of our party.

"We are presenting our credentials to the PR membership and to the Dominican people, and from this time forward, we categorically state that we are in the vanguard of the political struggle for the greatness of the PR," the statement added.

8587

CSO: 3010

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

ISA CONDE ATTACKS PENA GOMEZ DEFENSE OF U.S. FOREIGN POLICY

Santo Domingo EL NACIONAL in Spanish 12 Jan 80 p 13

[Text] The Dominican Communist Party [PCD] accused Dr Jose Francisco Pena Gomez of "once again playing the role of advocate for the Carter strategy and the American counteroffensive."

In a statement signed by Narcisco Isa Conde, the secretary general of the PCD, the communist organization is basing its condemnation of Pena Gomez on the latter's opinion "that the increased Soviet military presence in Afghanistan is a serious offense against international detente and an act which upsets the political balance of the great powers."

The PCD says that the Soviet Union has not "seriously offended detente because it was forced to react to a militarist escalation by the United States as evidenced by the pressure put on the capitalist nations of Europe to install powerful and destructive missiles which upset the balance."

In support of that, the PCD cites the postponement of SALT II, the rearming of Pakistan, China's anti-Soviet position, the promotion of counterrevolution in Afghanistan, the increased naval forces in the Indian Ocean and the Persian Gulf, and the "plans to achieve military control of the sources of petroleum of that region."

Isa Conde says that Pena Gomez "has developed to a remarkable degree the ability to warp reality, with a marked inclination to gild the image of Mr Carter and American imperialism just as other Social Democrat leaders are doing."

He adds that Pena Gomez' position "is coherent with his being the leader of a party which governs a nation within a framework of shameful American tutelage."

Moreover, he adds that "Dr Pena Gomez attributes to today's PCD an anti-interventionism that it has not been able to put into practice as the ruling political power of a country not only subjected to the economic pillage of the large American consortiums, but also under a military assistance treaty which allows tutelage of the Dominican armed forces by the Pentagon and the MAAG [Military Assistance and Advisory Group]."

EXILED CUBANS THREATEN PENA GOMEZ, ALLEGE PACT WITH CASTRO

District Attorney Pledges Protection

Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 23 Jan 80 p 2

[Excerpt] Yesterday, the district attorney said that the life of the secretary general of the Dominican Revolutionary Party [PRD], Dr Jose Francisco Pena Gomez, should be protected against the presumed plans of Cuban exiles who are trying to kill him.

Dr Julio Ibarra Rios declared that Pena Gomez is not a plain, ordinary citizen, but rather a political personage of the first rank, whose life should be safeguarded.

He said that he would attempt to converse with the political leader, so that the latter might give some indication regarding the presumed criminal plans, and an investigation could be made.

Pena Gomez recently disclosed that exiled Cubans have visited the country for the purpose of assassinating him.

He attributed the alleged plans to the fact that, among Cuban exile political circles, there is still the belief that he (Pena Gomez) has a secret pact with the president of Cuba, Fidel Castro, to engage in subversive activities in Latin America.

The PRD leader denied that any pact had been made with Castro, and claimed that such a charge on the part of the Cuban exiles was fallacious.

At a press conference, Ibarra Rios declared: "I shall do everything in my power as district attorney to prevent an attempt on the life of Dr Pena Gomez from occurring."

The attorney general complained that his office does not have investigators who would make it possible to order an immediate probe of the plans against Pena Gomez that have been disclosed.

He added that this is the only country in the world where the attorney general's office does not have a corps of investigators.

He remarked: "I do not even have an informant, but I shall conduct the investigation of this case with the means at my disposal."

Pena Gomez claimed that the exiles who are trying to kill him participated in the assassination of Orlando Letelier, the former Chilean foreign minister, which occurred in Washington.

PRD Committee Issues Alert

Santo Domingo EL NACIONAL in Spanish 23 Jan 80 p 19

[Text] The A-23 Rank and File Committee of the Dominican Revolutionary Party announced that the Dominican people, and the PRD members in particular, "will not stand by apathetically" in the face of any attack on Dr Jose Francisco Pena Gomez.

The A-23 Committee, of the La Cienaga district, alerted all PRD members "and the people as a whole to remain alert against the Cuban exiles, who may be devising sinister plans against Dr Pena Gomez."

2909

CSO: 3010

MASS HELD TO COMMEMORATE FALLEN MEMBERS OF 14 JUNE MOVEMENT

Pena Gomez Attends, Comments

Santo Domingo EL NACIONAL in Spanish 21 Jan 80 Sec A p 5

[Text] Dr Jose Francisco Pena Gomez made an appeal today that the remains of the anti-Trujillo heroes affiliated with the 14 June (1J4) political group and that of Col Francisco Alberto Caamano Deno be taken to the National Mausoleum.

However, the secretary general of the Dominican Revolutionary Party expressed the view that the measure should not be adopted "at this very moment, because the wounds have not yet healed, and many of the perpetrators of the sinister deeds of the Trujillo regime are still alive."

Pena Gomez made his statements during the morning, while attending a Mass in honor of the martyrs of the anti-Trujillo struggles celebrated at the Church of St Paul the Apostle, located on the very site of the former torture prison known as "La Cuarenta."

The liturgical ceremony was celebrated by the parish priest, Eulalio Antonio Arias.

Although the church was crowded with residents of the vicinity of the Cristo Rey district and survivors of the exploits of Cayo Confites, Constanza, Maimon and Estero Hondo, of Luperon and of the invasion of 14 June 1959, Pena Gomez expressed regret that few representatives of the various political parties were in attendance.

The PRD leader complained: "I regret that there are not more representatives from political parties, including the Dominican Revolutionary Party itself, present."

And he added that the heroes of 14 June must be honored and respected, because "they were the ones who paved the way for the Dominicans to win their liberty."

The Mass in honor of the anti-Trujillo heroes was celebrated today in memory of the occasion on 21 January 1960, when over 50 persons who had been arrested the day before were killed in the "La Cuarenta" jail.

Mr Cayeyo Grisanty, one of those who had been arrested on that occasion, recounted how, on 19 January, the 14 June clandestine movement was discovered by the tyrant's followers, and a roundup was made on a national scale, which ended with the arrest of over 200 persons.

He said: "That night, we counted nearly 80 persons who had been massacred and assassinated."

The ceremonies were also attended by Freddy Bonnelly, Moncho Imbert, Freddy German, Oscar German, Leandro Gorman, Frank Tapia Cunillera, Carlos Sully Bonnelly, Nini German, Mayobanex Vargas, Francisco Medrano German and Jose Vargas.

Other Statements, Criticism

Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 22 Jan 80 pp 1, 11

[Excerpts] The members of the 14 June clandestine movement were urged to reflect on the national situation, so as to determine what steps should be taken to make an effective contribution to the fulfillment of the revolutionary ideals which gave rise to the patriotic group.

Engineer Francisco A. Gonzalez, a member of the movement, stated yesterday, in a speech which he delivered at the Altar of the Fatherland, that these ideals are, "those of producing the necessary changes in the economic and social structures to enable our people to understand their history, become masters of their destiny and enjoy a society that is more just each day."

The 14 June movement marked its 20th anniversary yesterday with several functions, culminating in a meeting of families and friends on the premises of the Collectors Club.

Gonzalez said that, in the course of the 20 years when the movement was formed and made known, many cruel tortures were inflicted and many comrades died in this struggle.

Gonzalez declared that, after the fall of the tyrant, Rafael L. Trujillo, two democratic regimes were elected, and political and social measures were made to satisfy some of the aspirations which had impelled the movement to battle, such as the release of the political prisoners, the return of the exiles, the termination of deportations, and the enforcement of freedom of speech, of the press and of association.

Nevertheless, he called upon his comrades to reflect on the national situation.

After the Mass, engineer Dulce Tejeda de Alvarez and Dr Asela Morel made the first dig on the construction of a monument to commemorate the members of the movement who died in the exploits of 1960.

Engineer Tejeda de Alvarez, speaking on behalf of the movement, proposed that the remains of the Mirabal sisters (Minerva, Maria Teresa and Patria) be moved to the National Mausoleum, where the immortal Dominicans repose.

She said that she had been assigned to "initiate a national petition for something that we believe is just."

She noted that the Mirabal sisters "need not wait for history to judge them, because there is no controversy over their commemoration;" stating that a poll would confirm that fact that those "lives, which were cut short in a horrible way, had always been spontaneously dedicated to the nation."

Engineer Tejeda de Alvarez said that the Mirabal sisters had succeeded, by their great final sacrifice, "in moving our entire people," as a result of which the final battle against the dictatorship was waged.

She recalled the hours of terror and anxiety that the "Catorcistas" [members of the 14 June movement] spent in the "La Cuarenta" prison, in which "we witnessed the deaths of so many Dominican comrades, caused by the abusive torture committed by other Dominicans."

She said that, after 20 years, the members of the 14 June clandestine movement are still "forcing our wills toward total forgetfulness, because our hearts have never harbored rancor."

Engineer Tejeda de Alvarez stated that the monument for which the first dig was made yesterday will be a project serving as a "reminder to all Dominicans of their duty to remain alert to all national events, so as not to allow themselves to be caught again in situations marked by an abuse of power, whether it be internal or external."

She explained that the movement was formed by "ordinary citizens, without political aspirations, citizens with varied occupations and professions, who spontaneously decided, without leaders and in different parts of the country, to make an effort to put an end to the oppression that was being exerted on us.

"It was to support, even without weapons, the action of the Dominicans who were to come from outside; but as fate would have it, their activities were converted, in January 1960, into torture, pain, grief, terror and tears, in the 'La Cuarenta' prison."

Recollections of Severo Cabral

She recalled that Dr Angel Severo Cabral, "someone who had never been connected with this group, and who is nevertheless closely united with it," took the remains of the movement when it appeared that everything had ended, and began another one which, some time later, culminated in the final incidents of 30 May.

With regard to the proposal that the remains of the Mirabal sisters be moved to the National Mausoleum, the secretary general of the Dominican Revolutionary Party, Dr Jose Francisco Pena Gomez, who attended the Mass, expressed his agreement.

However, he was of the opinion that the transfer of the remains of the Mirabal sisters and of other heroes of 14 June should not be made at the present time.

He based his view on the fact that "the wounds have not healed yet," and that many of the "perpetrators of the sinister deeds of the Trujillo regime" are still alive.

A member of the movement, Mr Evelio Hernandez, exposed the persecution to which the founder of the 14 June movement, Andres Lora, has been subjected by the nation's authorities.

According to Hernandez, Lora's residence has been searched on two occasions by officers from the migration agency and the National Intelligence Directorate, in search of his wife, who is of Ecuadorean nationality, so as to deport her from the country.

Hernandez made an appeal to the other members of the 14 June movement to make a statement concerning this case.

He gave a reminder that Lora was one of those persecuted by the Military Intelligence Service (SIM), who had to escape to Cuba, where he met the woman who is now his wife. He expressed the view that the fact that both of them lived in Cuba is no reason why they cannot live in the country.

Pena Gomez, on the other hand, declined to discuss the matter, noting that he would collect more information on the subject itself before making a statement.

The 14 June ceremonies were attended by the following, among others: Mr Pena Gomez, Dr Luis Manuel Baquero, Dr Jose A. Fernandez Caminero, Dr Manuel Caceres Troncoso, engineer Leandro Guzman, Mayobanex Vargas, Francisco Medrano German, Payeyo Grisanti, Freddy Bonnelly, Ramon (Moncho), Felix and Nini German, Frank Tapia Cunillera, Carlos Sully Bonnelly, Horacio Julio Ornes, Luis Amiana Tio, Luis Alvarez, Tomasina Cabral de Del Rosario, Dulce Tejeda de Alvarez and Asela Morel.

2909

CSO: 3010

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

CUBAN PHYSICIANS TO BEGIN EXCHANGE PROGRAM WITH UASD

Santo Domingo EL NACIONAL in Spanish 25 Jan 80 p 12

[Text] A group of instructors from the Higher Institute of Medical Sciences in Havana will arrive in the country during February to give a series of refresher courses in medicine at the Autonomous University of Santo Domingo [UASD].

The Cuban instructors will also cooperate in the organization of teaching and research laboratories in the public university.

A note from the UASD's public relations office indicates that the teachers will be in the country for 8 weeks and that, according to the program that has been set up, the courses that they will give will be in pharmacology and neurophysiology.

The courses will be held in accordance with a plan for scientific cooperation arranged between the UASD and the Higher Institute of Medical Sciences in Havana.

Through this agreement, the UASD will send three doctors who have graduated from the medical school to Cuba in order to take courses specializing in embryology, genetics and immunology, over a period of 2 years.

The agreement was signed in January 1979 by Dr Magin Domingo Puello, dean of the Autonomous University of Santo Domingo, and Dr Ramon Casanova Arzola, rector of the Higher Institute of Medical Sciences in Havana.

The work plan to be implemented during 1980 also stipulates that the Higher Institute of Medical Sciences in Havana will receive the heads of the UASD's Departments of Morphological and Physiological Sciences during March of this year for a period of a week, for the purpose of acquainting them with the structure, operation and organization on the various echelons of medical education in Cuba.

The agreement stipulates that the travel expenses for students and instructors will be borne by the party sending them.

2909

CSO: 3010

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

BRIEFS

WEAPONS SEIZED—Police arrested over 100 people and seized several shotguns, revolvers, military and police uniforms, cartridges and bullets during several raids yesterday afternoon in Barahona. The raids were carried out in a search for eight unknown persons who robbed the home of the Caritas agent in this city several days ago. Yesterday's raids and arrests were made by social operations agents and officers of the department of crimes against property, who came from Santo Domingo. The prisoners were questioned this morning according to a report from the public relations office of the police department. Police and military agents are searching the hills around Barahona for the men who, dressed in military uniforms, robbed the home of Mrs Maria Colemont in the Pueblo Nuevo district of this city. The men stole cash, a camera, and clothing of undetermined value. Mrs Colemont is a Belgian citizen. During the robbery the unknown men pistol-whipped two youths and, after locking them in a room, robbed the house and left. They carried shoulder arms. [Text] [Santo Domingo EL NACIONAL in Spanish 11 Jan 80 p 11] 8587

CSO: 3010

FTC ISSUES COMMUNIQUE SCORING REPRESSION

San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 15 Jan 80 p 39

[Text] The Farmworkers Federation (FTC), affiliated with the FECCAS-UTC [Salvadoran Christian Peasants Federation-Farm Workers Union] among farmworkers, the working class, and other exploited and oppressed sectors of our people, once again denounces and repudiates the criminal repression which the army, the national guard [GN], the customs police [PH], and others are waging against the Popular Revolutionary Movement throughout the countryside, in an open and flagrant provocation and thus supporting the criminal ORDEN organization in the villages and districts of Las Vueltas township in Chalatenango department. The bloody and savage deeds carried out by the army, the GN, the PH, and members of ORDEN from 29 December to the present have had the following results:

Comrades Brutally Murdered

1. Gregorio Escobar, murdered on 29 December 1979 in Barrio La Vega, Los Ranchos
2. Jose Alas, murdered on 29 December 1979 in El Terrero, Las Vueltas
3. Amanda Rodriguez, murdered 29 December 1979 in El Terrero, Las Vueltas
4. Prospero Guardado, murdered on 31 December 1979 in El Picacho, La Laguna
5. Victor Manuel Guardado, murdered on 31 December 1979 in El Picacho, La Laguna
6. Martin Alas, murdered on 31 December 1979 in El Terrero, Las Vueltas
7. Josefina Guardado, murdered on 31 December 1979 in El Conacaste
8. Salvador Osmín Abarca, murdered on 1 January 1980 in San Jose Cancasque
9. Ciriaco Orellana, murdered on 2 January 1980 in San Jose Las Vueltas
10. Alfonso Calles, murdered 7 January 1980 in La Laguna, Las Vueltas
11. Roberto Alas, murdered on 7 Jan 1980 in Talchaluya, Las Vueltas
12. Jesus Mejía, murdered on 10 January 1980 in El Conacaste, Las Vueltas

In addition, there were several wounded (among them 10-year-old Dimas Guardado, who Joaquin Guardado, a member of ORDEN, shot three times), and also several people who were beaten, tortured, along with the destruction of several houses and personal belongings.

Recent Events

On Thursday, 10 January, approximately 100 members of the reactionary army, together with GN, PH, and other official personnel once again militarily invaded and occupied the villages and districts (San Jose El Amatillo, La Laguna, Conacaste, El Terrero) of Las Vueltas township, thus acting in support of the criminal members of ORDEN, who numbering 140 to 150 people, engaged in sowing terror and unrest among the families of this area.

At 0830 hours that day about 50 to 60 underlings of the army, along with GN, and PH and members of ORDEN, arrived in Las Vueltas township; and another 40 underlings arrived in Las Flores, spreading out through all the districts and villages, and, supported by helicopters of the armed forces and armed with all kinds of military weapons, they commenced heavy firing and pursued our comrades.

In Conacaste district they destroyed some belongings that had survived the previous criminal and bloody invasion, spoiling food and stores of grain.

In this same district, on the same day, eight national guardsmen captured Jesus Majia, who after torturing and raping her, savagely murdered her by stabbing her in the chest with a knife, cutting off her head, and shooting her eight times with a G-3, later leaving her body in a cave. Comrade Jesus was 28 years old and leaves five children ranging in age from 10 years to 2 months.

In all these criminal events, the actions of the army, GN, and PH have been in support of the criminal members of ORDEN, who, feeling confident and protected by the bourgeois laws, have engaged in every kind of criminal act.

The same day, 10 January, these gangsters arrived at the church in El Conacaste, where they broke down the door, burned the furniture, and with machetes mutilated the statues they found there. In addition, they then broke and robbed all the houses of the comrades.

Because of this desperate situation, the comrades and other peasant families have had to leave their humble homes and hide in the mountains, where they have been suffering from the cold, dampness, the hot sun, etc, and exposed to all kinds of sickness and dangers.

In view of these criminal and bloody events, FECCAS-UTC puts the responsibility therefore from this moment on, for the above acts, on:

1. The counterrevolutionary governing junta, made up of Cols Gutierrez and Majano and civilian members Morales Ehrlich, Dada Hirezí, and Ramon Avalos, as well as all the commanders and officials of the armed forces and other repressive organs, who, instead of actually destroying the criminal ORDEN organization, are attempting to maintain and strengthen it.

2. The oligarchs and bourgeoisie exploiters, who, with the aim of halting the unstoppable advance of the popular revolutionary movement in our country, are carrying out criminal and flagrantly repressive actions against the farmworkers and the public in general, which they try to hide with a great propaganda campaign of false patriotism based on their hollow and rotten slogan, "Peace, Work, and Love."

3. North American imperialism, which is attempting to deceive our people and other exploited and oppressed peoples of the world, is promoting its counterrevolutionary plans through demagogic, reformist media in combination with criminal repression—all this with the purpose of maintaining and strengthening the already decadent systems of exploitation and domination and dependency.

The FECCAS-UTC demands that the governing junta agree to:

1. The immediate and permanent withdrawal of the repressive organizations and the army from the districts, villages, and townships of the department of Chalatenango.

2. An immediate and permanent end to the invasions and military occupation, to arrests, torture, psychological warfare, and murders carried out against the farmworkers and the public in general;

3. Freedom and respect for the physical and moral integrity of the comrades under arrest and the other political prisoners and mission persons.

4. Trial and punishment of all those directly and indirectly responsible (members of ORDEN, local and district commanders, etc.) for all the criminal acts committed against the peasant families of Chalatenango and other regions of the country.

5. Indemnization to the peasant families and comrades of the department of Chalatenango for all the damage caused them.

Finally, FECCAS-UTC issues a combative and revolutionary call to all rural workers, to working class people living in shacks, the women shopkeepers of the markets, teachers, students, the public in general, and all the popular, revolutionary, and progressive organizations to denounce, condemn, and repudiate all the criminal and repressive acts committed against the farm families of Chalatenango, and also to give all their material and moral support, depositing it in the offices of AGEUS (National University) [General Association of Salvadoran University Students] or in the soft drink workers union.

Stop the criminal repression against the farmworkers and the public in general!

The entire public denounces and unmasks the demagoguery of the counterrevolutionary governing junta!

Because the color of blood is unforgettable...the murdered comrades will be avenged!!

For combative unity and the final liberation of the farmworkers!!

Federation of Farmworkers (FTC)

Made up of:

**Salvadoran Christian Peasants Federation--
FECCAS**

**Farm Workers Union
UTC**

Members of the Popular Revolutionary Bloc

12 January 1980

**Jose Heriberto Vasquez
Secretary General of the National
Executive Directorate (DEN) of the
FTC
Card No 1-10-001558
2 October 1978, San Martin**

**Jose Luis Fuentes R.
Secretary of Finance of the
National Executive Directorate
(DEN) of the FTC
Card No 6-4-009556
5 May 1978, Armenia**

**Nelson Edgardo Avalos
Card No 1-6-005082
17 October 1978, San Marcos**

**Feliciano Guardado
Card No 2-1-029200
5 October 1978, Santa Ana**

**Medardo Hernandez
Card No 8-1-017630
2 February 1979, Zacatecoluca**

CSO: 3010

EL SALVADOR

BRIEFS

FRG LOAN--San Salvador, 26 Feb (ACAN-EFE)--The FRG has granted El Salvador a loan of DM8 million for irrigation projects on government farm properties. The loan agreement was signed on Monday by FRG ambassador in El Salvador Joachim Neukirch and Salvadoran Foreign Minister Fidel Chavez Mena. The loan is repayable over 50 years at an interest of .75 percent per year. Ambassador Neukirch said that the credit is part of a vast German financial cooperation plan for agricultural development projects in El Salvador. [Text] [PA270456 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2350 GMT 26 Feb 80 PA]

BROADCASTERS CONDEMN THREATS--During the past few days several radio broadcasters have received threats from both the right and the left. We believe that in a country where there is talk of a turn to democracy a threat against the most precious thing a human being has--his life--shows that those who make those threats have no right to live in a democracy. The old concept that ideas are fought with ideas and not with violence has been valid throughout man's history. The communications media have not taken any side. We are a free enterprise at the democratic service of the people, informing them about the most important events of their times. It is the groups, institutions and individuals who make use of our media to communicate their ideas. There are sectors which use violence and that is the way they come to the media, particularly the radio stations, to transmit their messages, many times abusing the personnel of each radio station they seize. Nevertheless, the threats continue. We do not feel this is the way to transmit ideas to the people. The people have the right to learn of the way of life which some want to establish. We want to clearly state that we condemn violence and that the threats to individuals and the media only seek to transmit unilateral ideas to the people. [Text] [PA280035 San Salvador Radio Cadena Central in Spanish 1830 GMT 27 Feb 80 PA]

CSO: 3010

GUATEMALA

BUSINESS LEADER FAVORS U. S. POLICY

PA270510 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 2030 GMT 26 Feb 80 PA

[Excerpts from news conference by Roberto Reyes of YSKL with Eduardo Palomo, president of the Salvadoran National Association of Private Enterprise, on 25 February--recorded; place not given]

[Text] [Question] What about statements by Washington about support by the U.S. Government for Christian democracy?

[Answer] Regarding your question, I am going to give you a definite answer. We as Salvadorans, believe that what the U.S. Government said about insisting on supporting Christian democracy is not only wrong, but denotes a lack of political maturity, because there could be one, two, three or more alternatives. Above all, the governments of the entire world should support governments elected by the people. I believe that the U.S. Government made a hasty judgment in saying that they will support only the Christian democracy in the Salvadoran Government. We believe that the most logical thing would be to support a government elected by the people and not a de facto regime.

[Question] Does the Salvadoran National Association of Private Enterprise [ANEP] agree with the changes that have been announced?

[Answer] Yes, completely, Mr Reyes. As to the announced changes, with which, I would like to state, we are not acquainted, we would agree if the changes are an improvement. These changes logically, should be for the improvement of the masses, changes to improve and strengthen economic development, changes which will allow the poor classes to attain better positions and changes which will allow the middle class to advance and attain better positions. We believe that ANEP favors these changes for the better. These changes should allow El Salvador to be what we all want it to be, a country of smiles, in which each and every one of us will have the opportunity to advance.

[Question] Do you believe that U.S. policy is to lead Guatemala along the path already well-known in this area, like in Nicaragua?

[Answer] I do not believe that U.S. policy is leading us to that goal. I believe that U.S. policy is good. They are seeking democratization. We also agree with that line, if that is what you want to call it. I watch U.S. policy very closely. It seeks the participation of all sectors. They are very concerned because only one small sector has accepted responsibility and it does not have enough popular support. We believe that if they have had to make public statements like the one mentioned at the beginning of this news conference, it has merely been to uphold something which is unfortunately completely without basis. No matter how many props are used, we see that unfortunately, Christian democracy's stability is very weak, because it does not want to admit that it is part of the government and is really no longer an opposition party. Thus, U.S. policy is frank and honest, in my way of thinking. I cannot say if it is intelligent, or if it has made the necessary analysis, but it does not favor a country having communists or Marxist-Leninists, as they are called.

CSO: 3010

ECONOMY MINISTER REPORTS RESULTS OF MEETING IN SAN JOSE

PA271622 Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 1230 GMT 27 Feb 80 PA

[Text] Economy Minister Valentin Solorzano Fernandez has said the meetings held in San Jose, Costa Rica by the Central American economy ministers and the governors of the Central American Bank of Economic Integration (BCIE) had surpassed expectations during a news conference held in his office. He said the bank governors had not met since November 1978 and now they met in a new spirit of cooperation. It was agreed that in the future they will not only promote infrastructure but working capital as well. It was agreed to recommend the executive board study of means of providing aid and make immediate emergency loans to El Salvador due to its poor economic situation. It also studied Nicaragua's situation. Nicaragua needs free technical cooperation and preferential treatment [words indistinct].

Minister Solorzano said there was a change in the BCIE executive board with Constantino Bernasconi replacing Hector Villagran as Guatemala's representative. He said the construction of the BCIE building in Tegucigalpa will begin soon. The next governors' meeting will be held in Managua toward the end of November.

The ministers' meeting decided to hold more frequent sessions every 2 or 3 months in the various Central American capitals. An advance agenda will be made known after topics have been studied. [words indistinct].

The secretary's office rendered a report on Central American transportation noting that (?higher) production costs are largely due to the closing of some borders during certain hours. He added that there have been bilateral negotiations between some Central American nations [words indistinct] as long as international treaties are upheld.

Nicaragua requested the supply of goods for the reactivation of the economy, emphasizing [words indistinct] unemployment and [words indistinct] national unity. The ministers promised to endorse Nicaragua's efforts to solve its problems. Minister Solorzano said the common market backs Nicaragua's call for international support. We must supply raw materials to Nicaragua, he added, so it can produce, buy and sell and thus strengthen the common market.

GUATEMALA

BUSINESS LEADER SAYS CENTRAL AMERICA IN CRISIS

Guatemala City EL IMPARCIAL in Spanish 2 Feb 80 p 3

[Text] The following is the text of a speech made by the President of the Guatemalan Chamber of Commerce, Mario Echeverria, during the installation of the new executive board.

Central America has been stunned, surprised and alarmed by events in Nicaragua and El Salvador and the prospects of what might occur in Guatemala.

Guatemalan business has begun to weaken and the threat of a downturn in economic activity has begun to emerge in the form of the banks declining liquid assets and a stagnant construction industry.

This situation, which is the result of fear and apprehension over the communist threat that hangs over the area, has led many citizens to react and join groups, associations and institutions to prepare themselves to make a stand.

The guerrilla minority and the leaders who promote differences and resentment are attempting to give more importance to the desire for revenge or hatred rather than to the desire for freedom, ignoring the fatal results to satisfy their own wishes.

The lies, the rumors, the false charges made against the businessman, the petit bourgeoisie, the farmer, the financier, the politician or whoever stands between Marxist socialism and power are part of a plan prepared many years ago by Lenin. This plan was changed by Stalin, Mao and others but it is still in force. The story that the socialists are Guatemalans is a myth. Communism is an international force. Thus it is not the national interest nor the specific aspirations of the people which determine communist activity, its direction and rhythm. Rather it is the interest of the world revolution whose policy is administered from Moscow.

At the same time, patriots, citizens concerned over the fate of their country find themselves faced with unpatriotic Guatemalans who are only interested in power and winning to satisfy the wishes of their Soviet masters.

We must fight. Is it worthwhile to fight? of course it is. It is very much so. Because it is this sincere, frank and determined struggle which will defeat the murderous attacks supported by anonymity, subversion and demagogery.

This struggle should be the end result of the union of institutions and men who wish to give their fellow countrymen a better life, better educational and economic opportunities and, within the social framework, correct and proper attention to their medical and housing needs and their desire to defend freedom.

The bad treatment by employers, the anarchy in the labor sector, the abuse of power and the lack of credibility in judicial decisions and in election results can be dangerous catalysts. Business establishments should be vigilant and denounce these problems on a timely basis so that they can be corrected and they should use all legal means at their disposal to see to it that they do not occur.

The private sector, which includes business, industry, farmers, the construction industry, financial institutions, the Association of Friends of Guatemala, the tourist business, Protestant and Catholic churches and women's and youth groups, after extensive discussions prepared a plan of action designed to explain the situation in Guatemala, to provide guidance towards the idea of free enterprise, to make the businessman, the bourgeoisie, professionals, government administrators, students, teachers and workers aware of and direct them towards moral conduct so that their emphasis and actions are revised, readapted and changed to find peaceful and orderly solutions that are in keeping with our traditions and will help to solve our socio-economic problems. And, finally, to try to have as much influence as possible so that the solutions that are found can be put into effect as soon as possible.

Of course, to put this plan into effect successfully there are certain prerequisites that must be met:

1. The plan must be in effect for a specified period of time. It should cover the difficult pre-election periods in 1982 and should last at least a minimum of 1,000 days.
2. There should be adequate funding.
3. It should represent the nation's productive and nonpolitical sectors that will take part in improving the morals of the people.
4. It should brighten the gloomy image that Guatemala has earned abroad as a result of the obvious campaign that has been conducted.
5. Ideologically, it should regain the ground that has been lost and it should argue convincingly that freedom is being lost and that it can be lost completely if a clear definition of what it represents is not forthcoming.

6. It should have close and complete cooperation from the groups that are involved since as Francisco Perez de Anton points out in his book "Free Enterprise": "Social cooperation is not only a means that leads to many individual ends. It also has a final goal that is indispensable to promote and preserve because it transforms the isolated individual into a social entity, because it makes the goals of that individual compatible with the goals of society, because a partnership has more advantages than isolation because it creates an ethical stimulus based on the principle that the more support is given to the partnership the more one receives from it because thanks to cooperation it is possible to have a free society and, finally, because only in a free society is it possible to reach voluntary agreements."

"From all of these reasons, we can clearly see that social cooperation can be considered to be a final, positive and desirable value."

We are not ignorant of the task we are undertaking nor of the dangers which we face for having slept in the past. We have awakened to a reality that is crumbling.

There has been an invasion of the student population by leaders calling for radical structural changes by attacking the power structure and destroying the emerging wealth of the nation. The students are not concerned about this destruction nor about the fact that the poor are the ones who suffer the most from this as long as they can impose, without elections, what they call a "popular" government.

Theorist, obeying a slogan, have invaded the faculty and are poisoning young minds. Some hide behind religious garments and others behind the mantle of liberty that allows them to act on the basis of a philosophy that is full of hatred and resentment.

A brainwashing campaign of gigantic proportions is underway and is aimed at the undecided citizen and particularly at the emerging middle class. It is designed to lay the blame at their feet for the nation's ills and to make them appear as indifferent and despotic.

Specific sectors of the communications media have also been invaded so that they are like musicians in an orchestra playing the score "Guatemala's Disgrace." They are indifferent to the fact that when the structural changes take place and the leftist dictatorship is in power, their jobs will be the first to be kicked out and they will be the first to be silenced.

We know that among the students, the professors and the media there is concern over these penetrations and a desire to eliminate them as well as to have better arguments to combat them. Aggression, fear and threats have been the weapons used to penetrate these sectors. It is this group of intellectuals and the petit bourgeoisie whom the communists seek to convert with their siren songs.

Gentlemen, the Chamber of Commerce of Guatemala is a member of that middle class, of that class that is facing communism. Let us help Guatemala not to succumb to the disgrace of anarchy, disorder, rebellion and civil war. Let us support our institutions. Let us strengthen them and thus we will be able to preserve our freedom.

8599

CSO: 3010

GUATEMALA

BRIEFS

NO FUEL, ARMS FROM MEXICO--The director of internal revenue says that there is no arms and fuel contraband coming from Mexico. Director David Cordon (Nichas) told newsmen that there is no such contraband as reported by several newspapers. He said that the situation is under control and that in view of the increase in guards along the border it is very difficult for any contraband to get through. He said that besides the strict control, agents are carrying out raids in the mountain areas of several departments looking for other types of contraband. Until now the raids have been unsuccessful. [Text] [PA270204 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Feb 80 PA]

CSO: 3010

'LA PRENSA' DISCUSSES U.S. INTERVENTION

San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 27 Jan 80 p 6

[Commentary by Amilcar Santamaria: "Uncle Sam and Democracy"]

[Text] For decades the United States, which has never known what a coup d'etat or a dictatorship is, supported tyrants in Latin America, in line with the intrinsically absurd belief that our people were not ready for democracy and that, at the same time, the despots were better protectors of U.S. economic interests than presidents elected by the citizens.

But that mistaken, blind, and suicidal policy was shown to be basically negative, and, after a series of failures which climaxed in Cuba, Uncle Sam has finally realized that it is not true that we Latin Americans are incapable of aspiring to freedom, nor is it true that tyrants are good protectors of multinational businesses based in North America.

So the so-called Human Rights Policy is born, President Jimmy Carter emerges, and the break with the dictatorships of the subcontinent is begun.

But such a sudden change is not always made with tact. And thus, in Nicaragua, negotiations for Somoza's overthrow turned out so badly that now the big question in Washington is whether the cure was not worse than the disease.

Fine. Where is this disquisition leading?

It leads us to think briefly about the most recent visit by superdiplomat William Bowdler, who has visited Honduras to talk politics for the second time in 6 months.

Bill Bowdler was the architect of Somoza's fall, and therefore does not have the sympathy of the generals in this part of the world.

But his presence is required by the circumstances surrounding the new North American policy, and so friends of the past will not get rid of him easily.

Why did this specialist in Latin American affairs from the Department of State come?

His written statement tells us little, although something comes through: "Obviously we could not discuss everything we wanted to in such a short time (his visit with the junta lasted less than an hour)," he stated, "But we used the time to continue the excellent contact that our two governments have had. I am certain that the spirit of good will, cooperation, and honesty may have helped strengthen our relations and our mutual wish to promote economic and social development in the Central American region, in a peaceful and democratic atmosphere."

Aside from his brief prepared statement, he refused to give any details or answer crucial questions.

In spite of everything, the ambiguous statement tells us clearly and expressly that Washington is trying to find a peaceful way out for the region, and has finally been convinced, after nearsightedness verging on blindness, that there is only one way to do it: by encouraging economic and social development for the people of the region, within a framework of public freedoms, democratic institutions, and full observance of human rights.

The matter has a special connotation for Honduras: there will be elections in April, and the constituent national assembly will be installed.

Therefore democracy for us means truly free elections, the formulation of a progressive and civilizing constitution, and finally, including the people in top-level elections.

As citizens who are maturing, we believe that direct election of the president of the republic will involve all the people in defense of their government, and will give the president irreplaceable and valuable support in the struggle to rebuild the structures of Honduran society in the search for justice, an essential element for stability and peace.

We do not believe that the military regime needs Uncle Sam's envoy to tell it how to achieve democracy. But if he did so, and suggested universal, truly representative, and genuinely popular elections, he did well. When it comes right down to it, intervention in Latin America is a constant. Therefore, if it is done in the interests of the people's sovereignty and in support of their right to choose their president directly, it is preferable to what was done in the past without euphemisms in support of the tyrannies that wrung so much blood, sweat and tears from our people....

8587
CSO: 3010

COHEP INTERESTED IN GOVERNMENT FORMATION

San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 28 Jan 80 p 48

[Text] "The Honduran Private Business Council (COHEP) is only interested in the formation of a government," Gustavo Alfaro, the executive secretary, has declared.

The businessman's statement was made after a meeting with representatives of the government in the Presidential House, where he was informed about the objectives of the trip of Gen Policarpo Paz Garcia to the United States, scheduled to begin on 25 February.

"Our businessmen cannot define a position stating how a President should be elected as there are different opinions, according to the political affiliation of each member."

Alfaro stated that pertinent contacts are being made to set up a meeting with the legally registered political parties for the purpose of presenting the group's position on the new constitution.

In his opinion, although the economic situation does not appear to be good for this year, the growth rate will be maintained in relation to last year's rate.

"According to the new monetary policy being drawn up by the Central Bank of Honduras, there will be greater participation by the business sector, to include talks with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), at which some modifications will have to be made in the letter of intent currently in force."

"The above is of great importance since those terms were the cause to some degree of the liquidity problem experienced by private banks in the last half of 1979.

Joint Efforts

We affirmed that there is definitely no possibility of restructuring the Central American Common Market in view of the persistent conflict between this country and El Salvador and the new position of the Government of Nicaragua concerning the integration plan.

He remarked that joint efforts will have to be made to improve on the plan as Guatemala is the only member interested now in restructuring the CACM.

Financial Reservations

The political situation in Nicaragua and the crisis El Salvador is going through have caused reservations among international financial institutions.

Despite this, Alfaro said, domestic businessmen have full confidence that political stability in this country will continue, and as a result they are moving ahead with investment programs.

9015

CSO: 3010

HONDURAS

ARMED FORCES UNHAPPY WITH CANDIDATE SELECTION

San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 28 Jan 80 p 3

[Text] There is marked discontent within the Armed Forces over the choice of candidates for representatives to the Constituent Assembly made by the traditional political parties.

This was revealed to LA PRENSA by the commander of the Eighth Infantry Battalion, Col Hubert Bodden Caceres, considered to be one of the most influential officers in the Superior Council of the Armed Forces.

The high official added that many citizens deplore the nominations because they feel they do not satisfy popular aspirations, but he added that the Army cannot intervene in the selection process "because the election campaign belongs to the political parties."

"It is and it will continue to be the desire of the Armed Forces to guarantee honest and free elections," the military chief explained. He also said that the various unit commanders have received direct instructions from the high command to maintain contact with the local leaders of the political parties.

"We have received these instructions so that the political leaders will be assured that the military institution will guarantee free and honest elections, and since we have no preferences for any given candidates, we should be and are neutral," Bodden added.

Upon being asked why he thought some leaders of popular organizations refused to cooperate with the Renewal and Unity Party for the purpose of integrating their slates of candidates, for deputy, he replied that surely those leaders will join one of the traditional political groups.

"However," he explained, "I feel the PNU has good people in its ranks. I know some of the members of that party here in the south and in other areas of the country, and I think they have good people."

Betrayal of the People

The commander of the Choluteca military region feels that a boycott of the election would be a betrayal of the Honduran people since the citizens have shown they are interested in elections.

"Hondurans have shown they want to finish the electoral process and this was demonstrated by the response to the census, and although it was not all that was hoped for, it is obvious that there was a positive response on the part of the people," the high military officer said, adding categorically that "we in the Armed Forces are going to guarantee that on 20 April the elections will be held in complete calm."

Col Bodden Caceres was then asked for his opinion on the possibility that the future President of the nation will be someone elected to the Constituent Assembly, to which he replied:

"As a citizen and supposing I were a representative in the Constituent Assembly, I believe we would decide among everybody there and depending on to what the majority said later on, we would go along with it."

Regional Boards

The commander of the 11th Battalion was also asked if the Armed Forces had decided to continue functioning in public administration through the Regional Development Boards, he replied, "Those organizations will in the future receive instructions from the person named president by the National Constituent Assembly. That person will be the one who issues instructions on whether or not to continue maintaining those organizations."

Colonel Bodden feels that the next constituted government asks the Armed Forces to participate in the development of the country, "we should cooperate because we are Honduran citizens, and we are obliged to lend our assistance."

Guerrillas and Crime

In regard to crimes committed recently, the member of the Superior Council of the Armed Forces indicated that "such difficulties have always existed. "Although it should be recognized that some of these acts have been overpublicized, it is no less true that there has been an alarming increase, which the Public Security Force is trying to control," he added.

He refused to describe the origin of these acts, but he indicated that in principle they can be considered criminal acts. In addition, if as it is said, that this is a matter of guerrillas, it does not change the criminal nature of the acts, he said.

The military commander pointed out that "unfortunately, these things are happening at a time when the political situation in Central America is turbulent, but the FUSEP is taking steps to control them. I believe we should

take them as things that happen, something transitory that will soon be under the control of the authorities."

Investigation in INA

With regard to the high-level military investigation of the National Agrarian Institute (INA), Col Bodden Caceres stated that some information has already been released, but the investigation is not yet concluded.

"I think that the new INA director is trying to gather the greatest amount of information possible so that he will be able to give a true report on the situation later," the military leader said.

At the same time he indicated that agrarian reform has been a slow process worldwide since it requires a high level of education, technical expertise, and financial support.

"This government has invested a great deal of money in agrarian reform, and I don't think that the process is going to be speeded up just because one person has been changed. It has been said that agrarian reform is our basic task. And it continues to be, but at the pace that the Army has set for it," he pointed out.

Bodden Caceres denied that there were military "intrigues" in the National Agrarian Institute, and he also discounted the existence of a movement of young officers that had protested to the high command for what they considered "abuses against public funds."

"This information appeared several days ago, but there is really nothing to it," he indicated when asked if there were possible lack of discipline within the Army.

There Is No Massive Migration

The southern region commander was surprised when told that there is information indicating that there is massive migration of Salvadorans and Nicaraguans into Honduras.

"That is not true, and we have had no information from our troops. There has been some crossing over but it has been normal; these are people who come into the country legally," he concluded.

9015

CSO: 3010

PINU LEADER EXPLAINS PARTY'S POSITION

San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 25 Jan 80 p 18

[Text] "The North Americans acted in Nicaragua and El Salvador when they ran out of time, and therefore we hope that those events in Central America will not be repeated in Honduras," LA PRENSA was told by Dr Jorge Ramon Hernandez Alcerro, secretary of the Innovation and Unity Party (PINU) when he was asked about the visit by William Bowdler, deputy secretary of state of the United States.

"A process of real political democracy, and action in the economic sector to make democracy a reality in Honduras are the main points of our party's action plan," said Hernandez Alcerro.

"Nevertheless, we have given it a great deal of thought before presenting a plan for political action, a plan for legislative action, because, as you know, we are determined that the next national constituent assembly develop a constitution for the republic, not just elect a president."

Hernandez Alcerro said that the PINU has in mind a plan that includes a series of constitutional reforms, ranging from strengthening the exercise of democracy through plebiscites and referendums, to the formation of permanent institutions, creation of a special section for agrarian reform, revision of individual rights and guarantees, exploitation by Hondurans of the country's natural resources, and other aspects which will be represented by the PINU delegates in the constituent assembly.

The leader explained that, "we have ended our political split, and the persons who will take part as PINU deputies are united by ideas and not sectarianism, as is the case in the traditional parties."

According to Hernandez Alcerro, it would be more frustration for the people of Honduras if the next president is elected by the national constituent assembly.

"It seems like playing with fire, and when the neighbor's house is actually on fire, it is dangerous. I do not want to join the 'Horsemen of the Apocalypse,' that is not my intent, but I do want to say that I hope the

calculations that may have been made about the patience of the Honduran people do not fail the leadership of the traditional parties, in abusing the patience and confidence these people have had."

Giving as examples the convulsive situation in El Salvador and Guatemala, he noted that "the political and economic situation in Honduras is different, but we should act more responsibly, in a more radically democratic way, if we indeed believe in the principles of democracy, to insure that it survives in the country and that the Honduran people believe in it."

He stated that the PINU is not trying to distribute delegations like petty thieves, but it is a matter of making a truly democratic path in order for the sectors who have been silenced throughout our nation's history to make their voices heard.

He said that "I have declined a deputation, so that people might go who have never had the opportunity to attend an assembly, since the simple fact that I have a university profession gives me the right to participate more easily in the nation's task. Only if there were no one to fill the ranks would I accept, but any personal interest is subordinate to the general interest of the nation," said Hernandez Alcerro.

In conclusion he stated that MASTA (an organization that directs the future of the Misquito people) has responded affirmatively to the PINU, and they will attend the next national constituent assembly.

8587

CSO: 3010

NICARAGUA

ENVOY SEES POSITIVE U.S. ATTITUDE TOWARD JUNTA

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 13 Dec 79 p 2

[Text] Relations between the United States and Nicaragua are good and will tend to improve, since there is more information now in Washington on Nicaragua's progress, our ambassador in Washington, Rafael Solis, said today. "We are receiving American aid from private institutions--among which the churches are outstanding--as well as from the government, and it is important to emphasize that there is interest in continuing that aid," the ambassador indicated.

Solis said that the recent visit to New York by revolutionary commanders Victor Tirado and Jaime Wheelock was very positive, since the dialog begun with American business sectors made those sectors aware of the fundamental policies which are being implemented in Nicaragua.

"Companero Wheelock's speech to the Council of the Americas received an ovation. In that speech, Wheelock stated that Nicaragua wants to receive foreign aid and investment of all kinds, to speed up national reconstruction and support the efforts invested in the development process. This speech made a very good impression in the United States and opened up further possibilities for dialog with private sectors, which are observing the events in Nicaragua with some interest.

"Among the congressmen there is at present a spirit of cooperation with our country," Rafael Solis stated, emphasizing that the "American Somozist lobby has disappeared, and there are only a few legislators left who support Somoza, among them Murphy.

"For example," said Solis, "Congressman Wilson, who supported Somoza so strongly, now indicates that he is willing to support free Nicaragua. We spoke with him at length, and among other things he assured us that he had not known the entire truth about the dictatorship."

Our ambassador in Washington indicated that American public opinion is changing its attitude with respect to Nicaragua. "There is a problem of information," he commented. "There are newspapers that take an objective

view and favor disinvolvement in the process, while others, more reactionary, attack us unceasingly. There are also newspapers in which one editorial writer speaks well of Nicaragua, while another speaks against us. There are also cases of sly attacks containing all kinds of falsehoods, such as a series of articles written by newspaperman Leonard Greenwood in a Los Angeles paper, saying that massive violations of human rights are taking place in Nicaragua and that thousands of persons have been executed. Fortunately, the congressmen do not allow themselves to be influenced by this kind of information, but it is obvious that some of the public has been left with doubts; one must not forget that the American public is quite apathetic toward international events and that it is not well informed about what is happening.

We asked Rafael Solis what reasons the congressmen gave for amending and placing conditions on the 75-million-dollar credit to Nicaragua, and the ambassador said that "they eventually suggested 14 amendments, among them some concerned with freedom of religion, press, union organizations, etc. It happens that the better informed American sectors which were willing to help us disqualified those amendments, indicating that there is freedom of religion, press and unions in Nicaragua."

Ambassador Solis recalled that the credit has not yet been granted, since it still must be approved by the Senate. "I believe it will indeed be approved, since there is much good will toward us in the Senate, but the current negotiations will not be concluded until January, 1980."

Finally, he said that several American officials have been invited to Nicaragua to attend the Somozists' trials, and thus they can see for themselves that human rights are being respected here. And on another subject, he said that the Nicaraguan Embassy building in Washington, valued at \$1.8 million, has been put up for sale, since it is too big and the expenditure of a great deal of money in maintaining it cannot be justified while a program of austerity is being enforced in Nicaragua.

8735

CSO: 3010

NICARAGUA

CDS URGED TO AGITATE 'HOUSE TO HOUSE' ON SOMOZISTS' TRIALS

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 21 Dec 79 p 4

[Text] To have begun the judicial process against Somozism only 4 months after victory is an important achievement of the Sandinist Popular Revolution. The start of the Special Tribunals would not have been possible without the trust of the masses in the leadership organizations of the revolutionary process, without the political stability our society has achieved in these first few months of the revolution.

After the genocide perpetrated by Somozism, none of the members and accomplices of the old regime can escape being tried. Our entire population must contact the offices where evidence is being received, so that the Somozists may be brought before the tribunals.

It is true, however, that there are not enough receiving offices for evidence, that they are too far away for many people and that they are not accessible for those who live in isolated places.

In that case the people's organizations must play a role. For example, a mechanism could be established through the Sandinist Defense Committees while new receiving offices are being established. That could be one solution, in which the CDS's [Sandinist Defense Committees] through their higher organs, the zone and departmental committees, could immediately contact the tribunals.

Still very fresh in our memory are the Somozist massacres, our dead, the cruelty of the Somoza regime against all Nicaraguans. We still remember the bombing, the machinegunning, the massacres.

Our people were generous, even magnanimous, with their enemies once victory was won. Now we are dispensing justice through the Special Tribunals, and when we apply the law we must be implacable with Somozism.

No criminal must remain who has not been tried and duly punished. House by house, street by street, barrio by barrio, zone by zone, department by department, the CDS's must be mobilized. This is a trial against injustice,

against crime. The agitation must be general. At each meeting, assembly, etc., which is held, it must be remembered that the entire weight of revolutionary justice must fall on Somozism.

The Special Tribunals are the weapon raised by our revolution so that those who attack our people may be punished. We will condemn the aberrations of the past with revolutionary justice.

By contributing evidence and expediting the function of the Special Tribunal we will contribute to the consolidation of the revolution.

8735

CSO: 3010

NICARAGUA

UNESCO CHIEF ASSERTS PEOPLE'S RIGHT TO REPORT ON THEMSELVES

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 19 Dec 79 p 2

[Text] "UNESCO is in favor of freedom of information, but freedom of information must not be confused with the defense of a monopoly," said the director general of UNESCO, Amadou Mahtar M'Bow during his visit yesterday to the NEW NICARAGUA NEWS AGENCY [ANN], where he was accompanied by the minister of education, Carlos Tunnermann B.

During the meeting, he stated that he was happy to be here, adding, "You know the position of UNESCO on the problems of general information. There has been much talk about the problems of freedom of information within the framework of UNESCO; it has been said that UNESCO was against freedom of information, since some defend the right of governments to have their own news agencies, particularly in the Third World."

And he added, "It is clear that those who generally defend so-called freedom of information are those who defend these means of communication, and that it appears to them to be sufficient to protect these radios in order to continue defending freedom of information."

He emphasized that UNESCO feels that each people is free to inform, both within and outside of its country, on its own conditions.

That is to say, it is [not] others who should make pronouncements and define the feelings of a people, but rather that people itself who should define this situation.

Amadou Mahtar M'Bow referred to the "Statement on the Contribution of the Communications Media to the Promotion of Human Rights, to the effort for peace and contribution against racism, apartheid and warmongering propaganda."

And he spoke of the International Commission for study of the problems of communication in the world, headed by Charles McBride, Nobel Peace Prize winner, and which also includes novelist Gabriel Garcia Marquez and Juan Sabadia.

ANN Speaks

Carlos Garcia, director of ANN, indicated that in our country, the efforts of UNESCO since 1970 to strengthen the system of national agencies, particularly by the creation of the Latin American special news service agencies, known as ALASIN, are known. "Our agency, ANN, in itself points to the efforts being made by the FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] and our Government Junta to stop the distortion of news, of communication itself, by the news agencies of the developed capitalist countries concerning these countries," said Garcia.

And he added that the efforts are directed toward the need to stop the campaigns which are against the interests of the Nicaraguan people and against the interests of those peoples who are in the process of being liberated, in the process of development.

He indicated that the agency is made up of young people, almost all journalism students, with little experience in the field of international news agencies.

He explained how ANN works and stressed that "our agency arises from the need of countries such as ours for a proper instrument to reflect its actual situation in an objective way, in a real way, as I said at the beginning. We simply use the truth."

8735

CSO: 3010

'BARRICADA' URGES INTENSIFIED PROPAGANDA EFFORT

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 12 Dec 79 p 3

[Editorial]

[Text] Within the framework of the permanent effort our Sandinist communications media are making to educate, orient and inform the masses about the progress and difficulties of the revolution, we have been emphasizing the chief initiatives of the masses concerning production problems. We have also included the revolutionary actions of the mass organizations, the army and our vanguard, which is making the slogan "People, Army, Unity, Guarantee of Victory" a daily reality.

In this way we expect to form a new type of journalism, a revolutionary journalism where the masses—who are the great movers of the revolution—speak out clearly and communicate through the communications media, generalize their experiences and summarize their progress and difficulties.

However, we already have many deficiencies; sometimes we do not succeed in expressing reality in all its harshness, the true meaning of the popular initiatives, the basic facts. In the way of self-criticism, we can give concrete examples in the case of BARRICADA. We have reported on the voluntary workdays and their political significance, but the news has lacked sufficient depth to offer concrete data as to how many workers took part, how they were organized, how many hours of voluntary work were given, what the proposed goals were and what concrete results those voluntary workdays had in the matter of production. And voluntary work should be recorded so that it will lead to emulation, to the comparison of achievements between different work collectives, between different regions.

Sometimes we have reported the inauguration of a new production complex, but we have emphasized the political speech more than the concrete facts, the presence of the workers, their hopes, the way in which they are organized.

The same is true with our support of the national campaign against bureaucracy, which has been rather deficient and in which concrete examples and alternatively proposals are conspicuous by their absence.

We believe that this self-criticism by BARRICADA should serve as a norm for Sandinists, for the mass organizations and the propagandists, upon whom we call to intensify their efforts to strengthen production propaganda.

Each organizer, propagandist and agitator of the mass organizations should explain clearly to our people the economic problems the revolution is experiencing. Concrete examples must be given, with data which make clear the reality of the situation and make it understood that difficult times are ahead in which it will be necessary to adapt a new revolutionary concept. New forms of organization, propaganda, mobilization and new revolutionary attitudes toward work will be necessary to continue our progress, and as of now we must begin the discussion, a political discussion based on reality, on concrete facts.

Words are important weapons in the struggle when they are supported by action. And the mass communications media must complement that action, reflecting it faithfully and disseminating it among the masses.

We are awaiting a response to our call, that all Sandinists, the mass organizations and all our people will express themselves and join the Sandinist communications media in giving our propaganda a more concrete and revolutionary content. Thus we will strengthen the ideological instruments of the revolution, the weapons of combat of all the people.

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CSO: 3010

NICARAGUA

SEARS WORKERS DEMAND GRN INTERVENTION, CLAIM FUNDS PULLOUT

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 20 Dec 79 p 2

[Text] The Jose Jerez Sears Managua Employees Union has addressed a letter dated 8 December to Minister of Labor Dr Virgilio Godoy in which it requests his immediate intervention to prevent the increasing pullout of capital by the transnational Sears firm, which has been going on for several months, but more seriously since 29 November 1979.

The workers point out that they recently signed a collective agreement with the firm after it was discovered that Sears was preparing to close down its operations and leave Nicaragua. Eighty-five of the firm's 94 employees organized a union and brought the American firm's activity to a halt for several days. The firm has branches in many countries of the world.

They indicated that as a strategic measure they signed the agreement for 2 years while they negotiated with the Ministry of Labor and other authorities to prevent the firm from leaving Nicaragua and taking with it large amounts of capital and property.

The members of the Sears union included with the letter to Minister Godoy information about what they called a flight of capital and cash.

On 29 November, the firm purchased \$44,000 at the rate of 17.20 cordobas to the dollar, investing 756,000 cordobas in the operation, which involved Raul Mayorga and Sergio Balladares.

The following day the firm wrote two checks for 509,000 cordobas to the order of Rene Martinez, to purchase \$35,500 (at the rate of 17.20).

On 6 December, the purchases were for \$43,800, equivalent to 752,360 cordobas, to German Munkell and Rene Martinez.

To the latter, there were two drafts on 7 December for \$19,500, equivalent to 318,200 cordobas, at the rate of 17.20.

Finally, they purchased \$122,800 in only 9 days, for which they paid 2,306,560 cordobas, almost double what they would have paid if they had been purchased at the rate of 10 for 1.

These checks were drawn against Sears account 92-C of its headquarters in Panama. They indicate, in addition, that a check was written to the same Rene Martinez for \$300,000, or 5,160,000 cordobas, an amount which would leave the Sears transnational firm's account at zero.

To top it off, recently the firm decided to supply its branch in Costa Rica, and after delivering large quantities of articles the truck was not returned. In addition, a couple of months ago several delivery trucks left for El Salvador, where there is another branch.

The union members pointed out that the managers have left the firm in a state of complete abandonment--a firm like Sears which prided itself on its good business practices--and it now does not have the slightest interest in activating accounts of clients who today find it difficult to pay. This entire situation has caused the union members to request an immediate investigation of the Sears transnational firm and, principally, to prevent it from pulling out its capital and other property from our country.

The letter also requests, if possible, appointment of someone to intervene and ascertain the firm's situation.

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CSO: 3010

NICARAGUA

SANDINIST CHILDREN'S ASSOCIATION GOALS EXPOUNDED

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 27 Dec 79 pp 1, 6

[Text] "Nicaraguan children as beneficiaries of the revolution deserve all the support of the people, the various mass organizations and government agencies," Companero Carlos Carrion, head of the Party Organization Secretariat of the FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front], told BARRICADA. Companero Carrion spoke to us about the establishment, functions, plans and needs of the Luis Alfonso Velazquez Sandinist Children's Association [ANS].

How the ANS Came About

The ANS came about in a rather unplanned fashion as the result of a journey Commander Carlos Nunez made to Posoltega. On that occasion, the children of the locality were carrying a poster which read, "Sandinist Children's Association," and were singing the FSLN hymn. Thus the idea was born of encouraging the Association, which took the name of Luis Alfonso Velazquez, a true symbol of Nicaraguan children.

That was how the 19 July Sandinist Youth began to carry out organizational tasks in the various primary schools of the country.

Children from 6 to 14 years of age began to organize. Later a tour was formed with the leaders of the children, which gave greater impetus to the ANS.

In Managua, Companero Carrion pointed out, outstanding members of the Sandinist Youth formed an organization to work at the national level as the head of the ANS. It is through that organization that the various children's meetings with the PNS, EPS and others have been possible.

What is the Purpose of ANS?

Companero Carrion indicated that ANS tries to contribute to the overall education of the child. "This means educating him in a true brotherly spirit of solidarity, to complement in that way the education he is getting in the school," said Carrion.

He added that the ANS expects to organize the various children in a more wholesome and better-guided way, since it is not unaware that there are many children who still use drugs, fight and do other things.

In view of this situation, said Carrion, and because of the lack of needed physical facilities, the ANS proposes to take the children to places outside the city: to visit the countryside, the rivers, etc., so that the children will learn more every day about these activities in a collective way.

How are the Children Being Organized?

Carrion said that up to now the children are being organized in the schools. He indicated also that the Sandinist Youth only has eight members to do this work, which is not enough to advance the organizational work.

"The ANS is a special organization whose leaders are not only children but are also youths and adults; there are also primary school teachers involved, who consider themselves guides, in a way, in the spirit of the true role of the ANS," said Companero Carrion.

He emphasized the real importance of the integration of the various mass organizations into the Sandinist Children's Association. He cited especially the Luisa Amanda Espinoza AMN [Nicaraguan Women's Association], which is a real source of development for the ANS--not that the women's organization will cease to attend to its own needs.

Plans and Needs of the ANS

Among priority needs, Companero Carrion said, it is considered a great importance that the children's programs of the various ministries be channeled through the ANS, since it is with the support of the popular organizations and of all the ministries that the ANS will largely be encouraged.

He mentioned specifically all the programs of the ministries which have to go directly with the children, such as social welfare, health, education and associations such as ANDEN [National Association of Nicaraguan Teachers] and the Luisa Amanda Espinoza AMN.

Companero Carrion mentioned as a real need the acquisition of a farm where the children may go to learn farm work, which is basic to our economy, and to have a more direct contact with nature.

Among the plans of ANS, he said, it expects to broaden and acquire a greater number of human, technical and material resources to establish greater coordination and give more solidity to the Sandinist Children's Association.

In ending the interview, Companero Carrion said that exhibitions are planned in the ANS headquarters in which the various state ministries will participate so that the child can continue to have a true awareness of work and of the respect to which the worker is entitled.

As part of international solidarity with our process, Companero Carrion said, finally, that the World Federation of Democratic Youth has offered all the assistance necessary in the technical field, as well as an invitation for Nicaraguan children to visit children's camps in Czechoslovakia and the campaign by the German Children's Association to obtain educational games for Nicaraguan children.

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CSO: 3010

NEWSPAPER COMMENTS ON DANGER OF DELAYS AT PANAMANIAN PORTS

PA270306 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 24 Feb 80 p A4 PA

[Editorial: "Disruption of Business"]

[Text] It has always been justly said that our country's main wealth lies in its geographic position. The construction of the railroad, the inter-oceanic canal and the Colon free zone are daily related to this fact. Lately, however, many activities have been affected, thereby endangering our foreign and domestic trade.

Ocean freight is becoming increasingly complex despite new methods for loading and unloading at ports. Voyages and their durations are very carefully programmed, because the average daily cost of operating a vessel--in port or at sea--is \$10,000.

Since 1 October, the day when Panama took over the responsibility for the ports of Balboa and Cristobal and the Panama-Colon railroad through the port authority, there have been justified complaints by the users of the Colon free zone, as well as by local businessmen and industrialists.

We are perfectly aware that many of the workers who operated the ports were transferred to the canal commission and had to be replaced by new employees with little or no experience in this line of work. The delay in delivering cargo, however, lies in the lack of proper equipment, and there is no excuse for this.

The authorities in question had enough time to analyze any discrepancy and to demand that the agreements reached be complied with. If this is not the case, then we must ask ourselves: Why was not the necessary equipment bought in due time, in order to grant a more effective service?

The government must take into account not only the disruption caused to firms receiving cargo through the port of Cristobal, but also the danger that these delays mean to the free zone, which already has several competitors in the Caribbean area. Just as the free zone could have a brilliant future now that there is the possibility of using new areas and installations

that have reverted to our country, it could also disappear in a short time--with great detriment to the economy of Colon--if we do not correct our mistakes promptly. If to the above we add the strikes at the ports which also provide an international service by selling supplies to vessels, we might see more ships going through the canal without stopping at any of our ports, and Panamanian businessmen--and therefore all of us--will end up paying more for everything we get from abroad.

CSO: 3010

ST. LUCIA

BRIEFS

POTENTIAL CRISIS--St Lucia was today without the governor general as the country celebrated its first independence anniversary with a new potential crisis having surfaced. A former Labor Party secretary, (Boswell Williams), who was to have replaced retiring Governor General Sir Allen Lewis, told the Caribbean News Agency today that he had not been sworn in for the post. Mr Williams, however, declined to elaborate. The new situation follows an announcement yesterday by Sir Allen that he was proceeding on preretirement leave immediately. This has led to renewed bitterness in the government of Prime Minister Allan Louisy who's currently having a leadership struggle with his deputy, George Odlum. Mr Louisy had promised his deputy that he would step down at the end of last year and allow Odlum to take over. But Louisy has stated that he is staying on because of his uncertainty of the political path the country would take under Mr Odlum's leadership. [Text] [FL222113 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2030 GMT 22 Feb 80 FL]

CSO: 3020

URUGUAY

SOLAR COLLECTORS TO PLAY ROLE IN SOLVING ENERGY WOES

Montevideo EL PAIS in Spanish 4 Jan 80 p 14

[Article: "Over 100 Solar Collectors Have Been Installed in Uruguay"]

[Text] More than 100 solar collectors of national, Italian and Israeli manufacture have already been installed for private use in our midst. There are also industrial establishments interested in the use of solar energy for the heating of water to be converted into steam, which would make it possible to save fuel in one of the stages of the process. As in other countries, solar energy in Uruguay will be only a partial solution for the remainder of the century.

Such was reported to EL PAIS by the national energy director, engineer Manuel Berger, who pointed out that water heated by solar collectors is used for bathing, washing dishes and laundering. For the time being, he added, those collectors have been installed only by private individuals mainly in Montevideo, Colonia Suiza and Punta del Este.

FRIGEL Ltd is the firm that builds and sells collectors in Montevideo, while MANPRE Ltd has been doing the same of late in Maldonado. These are flat-type solar collectors consisting of coils or metal pipes to which a black painted backing is attached. When the latter heats up, it transfers the heat to the water going through the pipes.

Can solar energy constitute an important substitute source for petroleum in our country? Engineer Berger's answer to this is that in Uruguay, as in other countries, it is going to be only a partial solution in the immediate future. He cited in this connection a study of the Bariloche Foundation which estimates that solar energy will constitute 11 percent of the total energy consumption of Latin America by the year 2000.

Asked about the possibility of our industry also installing solar collectors, he said that on the desk in his office of the National Energy Directorate there are requests from two establishments seeking advice on the use of solar energy awaiting his attention. Engineer Berger added that they are enterprises which use steam to power their machinery. The first phase in

the relevant heating of the water consists in raising its temperature to 40° C, which could very well be done by solar collectors, thus saving a significant amount of fuel. Engineer Berger explained, however, that hydroelectricity will continue to be the major substitute for petroleum in Uruguay. The amount generated by the Salto Grande Dam will represent a real saving of crude in 1980, he pointed out, if we keep in mind that 20 percent of petroleum imports to date have been destined for the generation of electricity.

In his dialog with EL PAIS, the national energy director also referred to the search for a substitute for naphtha, whose consumption currently represents 30 percent of petroleum imports. When consulted about the use of alcohol, he indicated that its cost could be higher than that of naphtha. For it to actually constitute a saving, we must have a higher yield of sugarcane per hectare and a higher yield of alcohol per ton of the plant. A group of technicians is making studies and, once the preliminary results of the research are obtained, the experimental use of alcohol will surely be started, Berger said. It is not possible to determine how long it will take to reach the desired conclusions, he added.

With respect to the peaceful use of atomic energy, he stated that Uruguay is very well regarded internationally for the programs and advances of the past few years. He declined to expand on the subject, although he mentioned that there are interesting points, because he wants first to submit to the chief executive the report on the results of his recent trip to New Delhi, where he headed the Uruguayan delegation that participated in the conference of the IAEA.

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CSO: 3010

URUGUAY

EXPERT SEES AGROENERGY PARTIALLY REPLACING OIL

Montevideo EL PAIS in Spanish 18 Jan 80 p 11

[Article: "Crops Could Provide Energy to Uruguay"]

[Text] "With suitable crops on a million hectares, Uruguay would be in a position to obtain an energy source sufficient to replace the 2.5 million tons of petroleum that it imports," Dr Jesus Fernandez Gonzalez asserted in disclosing one of the surprising results that agroenergy, a science that is in an experimental stage in several countries but is rapidly gaining ground in a world affected by the rise in the price of petroleum, is capable of providing.

The astonishing yield mentioned by Fernandez Gonzalez--an internationally recognized authority in the field of energy, professor of plant physiology at the Superior Technical School of Engineers of Madrid and member of the Spanish Nuclear Energy Board--could be attained if it is confirmed that agroenergy and the complementary technological processes that it needs to transform the substance into energy are economically beneficial to the country.

The distinguished visitor does not hesitate to assert that the novel science, which has made great progress in the past 3 years, is feasible in Uruguay because of the geographic, climatic and demographic conditions.

In his dialog with the newsmen, he explained that "agroenergy is the science that deals with obtaining energy from the organic matter of plants, whose biomass has been formed by the use of solar energy."

Before going into his technical explanation, he stated that "in a broad sense, biomass is any type of organic matter that has originated as a result of a biological process. The organic molecules of the biomass contain energy stored in their bonds that is released in the processes of combustion. The energy accumulated in the biomass originates in the final analysis from the absorption of solar energy in the photosynthetic process."

Crops and Processing

The basis of agroenergy is the development of crops--which in the opinion of the expert, encompass an ample variety (from eucalyptus to sorghum and sugarcane)--according to conditions in each country. He added that agriculture and agroenergy should not be confused. "The main goal of traditional agriculture is to grow food or products for industrial use," he said, "while agroenergy considers its main objective to be the cultivation of plants to obtain fuels easily used by man. The nutritional value is not important to energy, but production cycles are.

The product of the crops, or biomass, can be converted into energy "by direct combustion or by transforming it into fuels in the form of solids, liquids (such as alcohols and hydrocarbons) or gases (such as methane, producer gas and natural gas). These conversion processes require the application of diverse technologies," he indicated, "but the necessary systems are profitable in all instances."

Hectares for Energy

Dr Fernandez Gonzalez considers that Uruguay meets the requirements for the transformation of crops into sources of energy. "The implementation of agroenergy programs is successful in countries where the population density is not very high and the centers of energy demand are not concentrated. Also, the country must have land in excess of that required for food production, a modest energy demand and a lack of sufficient energy resources," he pointed out. "I believe that these determining factors exist in your country."

The yield of the crops varies, he said before offering these details: The equivalent of 18 tons of petroleum could be obtained from 40 tons of dry matter per hectare annually; crops with a yield of only 5 tons per hectare will make it possible to obtain energy equivalent to 2.25 tons of petroleum.

Dr Fernandez Gonzalez estimated that our country could replace the 2.5 million tons of petroleum that it imports annually with crops on 1 million hectares, which transformed into combustible substances in various ways would provide solutions for the future.

"In Uruguay, it would not be necessary to reduce the land dedicated to food crops in order to use it for agroenergy production, because there is a high percentage of land that is not being cultivated," he noted. "Uruguay meets the food needs of the population with the cultivation of 8 percent of its soil. Therefore, a large portion remains which offers possibilities for agroenergy crops by the application of the proper technology."

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CSO: 3010

URUGUAY

INSTALLATION OF TURBINES FOR PALMAR DAM TO BEGIN

Montevideo EL PAIS in Spanish 14 Jan 80 p 8

[Article by Ricardo Nole Llaguno: "Palmar: 60% of Structure Soon and Installation of Turbines to Begin in February"]

[Text] Mercedes--Construction of the Palmar hydroelectric dam is currently at the peak of its activity with 4,000 workers engaged full time. The imposing structure of the complex rising above the Negro River has used up thousands of tons of cement and steel and is at a stage which still will take some 10 months, in the opinion of the technicians.

The dam, which is being built 250 kilometers upstream in the Negro River, has been a significant factor in the employment of workmen in Soriano, Rio Negro and Flores, in that order.

The construction stages have been generally completed within the appropriately established guidelines, with some natural obstacles arising from the impossibility of foreseeing a number of imponderables, including the weather. The civil engineering portion, with a phase of concrete laying that constitutes the very bulk of the structure, is being carried out at a good pace, and it can be asserted that more than 60 percent of it has been completed. Thus, more than 300,000 cubic meters of concrete have been laid.

The next stage will be the installation of the three turbines, some of whose parts have already arrived in the country, slated to begin between February and March. The first of the turbines will go into operation in December 1981, according to the deadline on the timetable. Parts of the turbines that have already been brought to our country were transported to the area of the project in Palmar, and the preliminary work for their final installation was started at the same time.

A continual, unending activity can be observed in all the sections of the dam, while the growth of the imposing structure can be noticed every day. The machinery, also of huge size, operates 24 hours a day.

Full Occupation

The employment of workmen has been constantly increasing through the stages of the construction until their number has reached the top figure of 4,000 at present. Once the task of the laying of concrete has been finished, the work force will gradually diminish until the number remaining in the final stage of the installation will be markedly lower than the current figure.

Opening for Visits

Sources contacted by EL PAIS indicated that the president of the republic, L. Aparicio Mendez, has made known his interest in visiting the project, and it is expected that the desire of the chief executive will be fulfilled at any moment. Shortly after the visit of the president and other officials, the Palmar Joint Commission (COMPAL) will make ready a visitor's area for the general public.

8414

CSO: 3010

BRIEFS

AIR FORCE REVAMPED--The Venezuelan Air Force staff has been restructured. The restructuring began with the appointment of new division chiefs and the swearing-in of these chiefs. The ceremony was attended by Div Gen Maximiliano Hernandez Vasquez, air force chief of staff. Some of the new division chiefs are: Gen Carlos Humberto (Pino Arcila), chief of the operations division; Gen Rafael Jacinto Quintero Torres, in the intelligence division; Jose (Bargraser) Iglesias, personnel division chief; and Gen Julian Roberto (Giller) Moreno, chief of the logistics division. This is the first time that the Venezuelan Air Force has had officers with the grade of brigadier general in its staff divisions. [Text] [PA160253 Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 2050 GMT 15 Feb 80 PA]

CSO: 3010

END

SELECTIVE LIST OF JPRS SERIAL REPORTS

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WORLDWIDE REPORT: Environmental Quality
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WORLDWIDE REPORT: Law of the Sea
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WORLDWIDE REPORT: Telecommunications Policy, Research and Development

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